



# AKBAR

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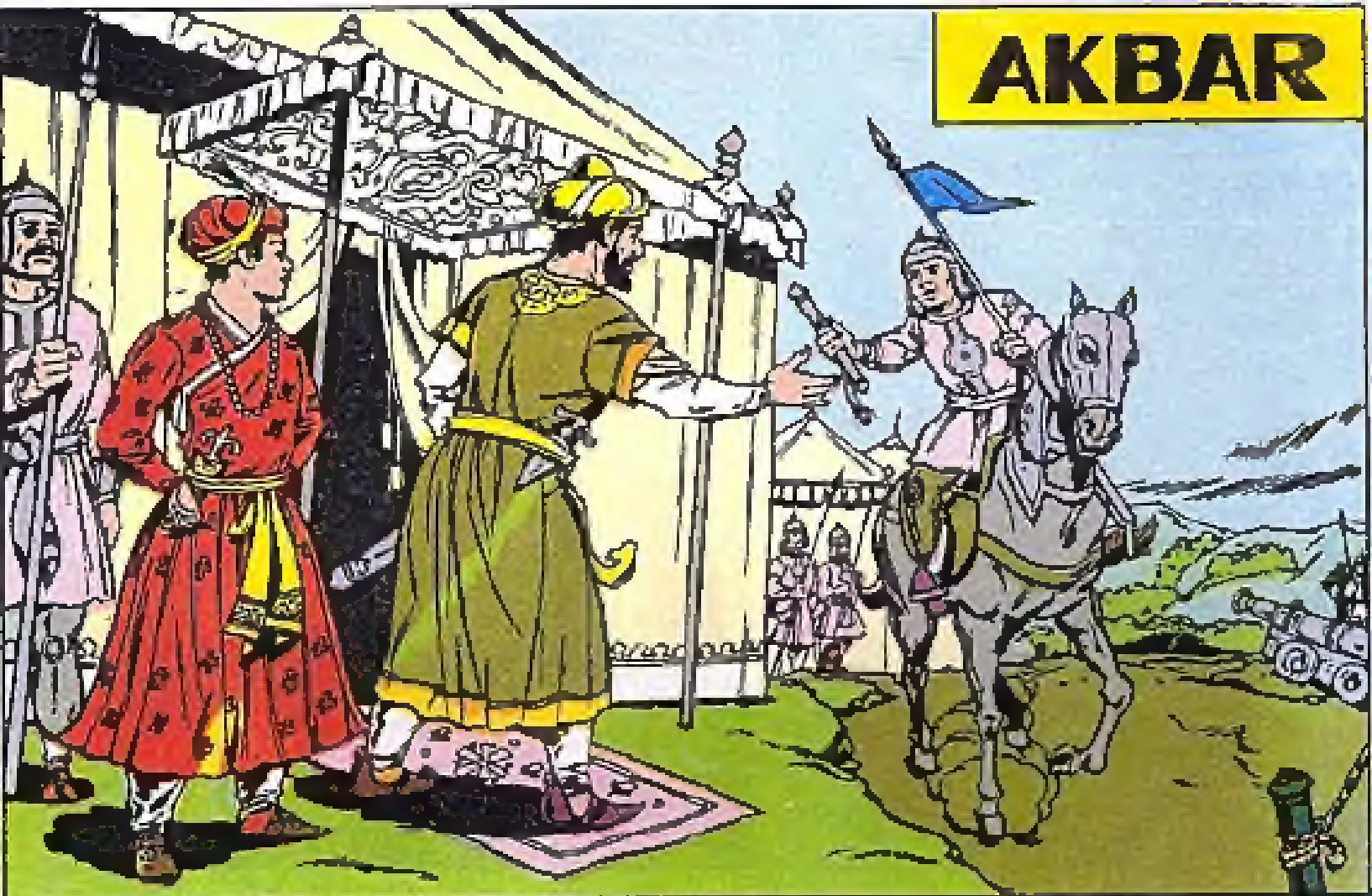
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# AKBAR



IN THE YEAR 1556, AKBAR WAS JUST THIRTEEN YEARS OLD. YET HIS MILITARY TRAINING HAD ALREADY BEGUN. HIS FATHER, HUMAYUN, THE MUGHAL EMPEROR, HAD SENT HIM WITH HIS FAITHFUL GENERAL, BAIKRAM KHAN, TO FIGHT IN PUNJAB AGAINST THEIR ENEMY, SIKANDAR SHAH.



WHAT IS THE NEWS, BAIKRAM? YOU LOOK VERY UPSET.

SAD NEWS, AKBAR...



... YOUR FATHER, THE ILLUSTRIOUS HUMAYUN, HAS LEFT THIS EARTHLY ABODE....

MY FATHER DEAD! HOW DID THIS HAPPEN SO SUDDENLY? HE WAS WELL WHEN WE LEFT HIM!



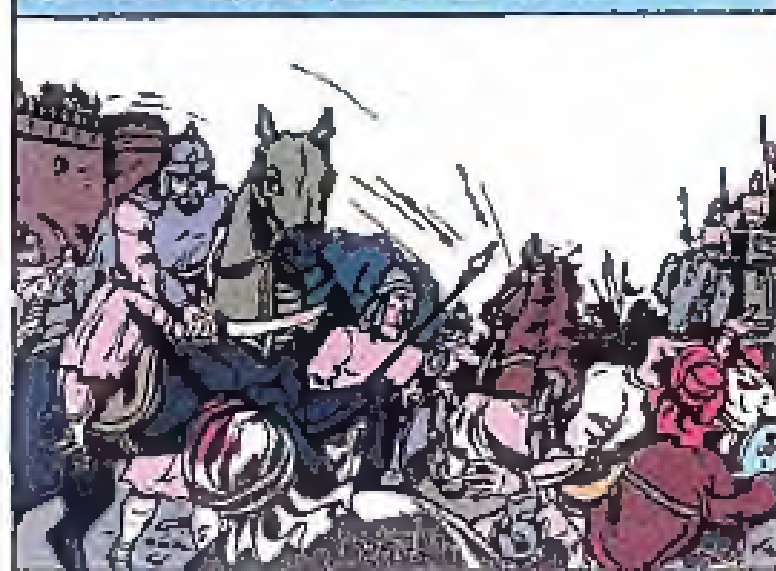




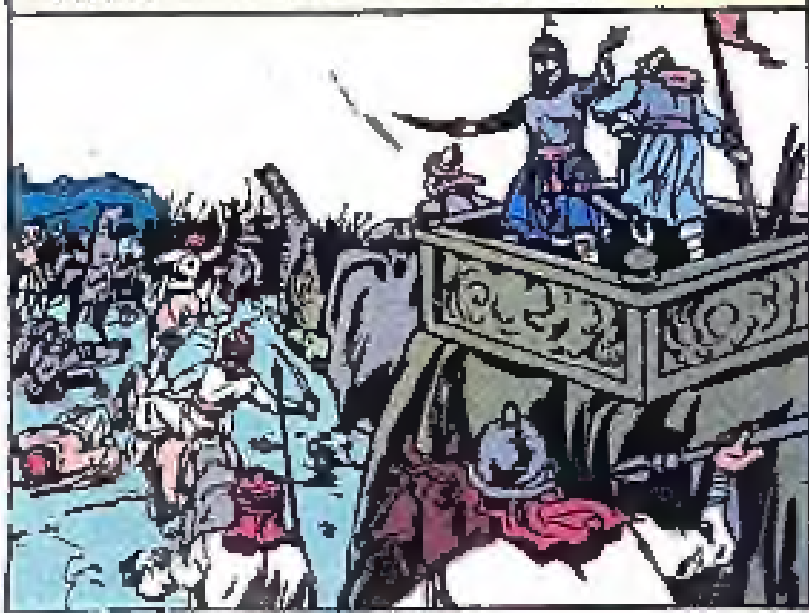
WHILE BAI RAM, WITH AKBAR, WAS DIRECTING THE CAMPAIGN IN PUNJAB, AN ALARMING EVENT WAS TAKING PLACE AT THE CAPITAL. HEMU, THE HINDU GENERAL, HAD MARCHED TO DELHI, AFTER TAKING AGRA.



TARDI BEG, THE MUGHAL GOVERNOR OF DELHI, PUT UP A VALIANT DEFENCE AND ROUTED HEMU'S ADVANCE GUARD.



BUT HEMU MADE A SUDDEN FIERCE ATTACK ON THE MUGHAL CENTRE.



TARDI BEG PANICKED.

WE CANNOT HOLD OUT ANY LONGER. WE WILL HAVE TO LEAVE DELHI TO THE ENEMY. BUT AT LEAST LET ME SAVE HUMAYUN'S TREASURE FOR AKBAR.



HE FLED, TAKING THE TREASURE WITH HIM.



DELHI FELL TO THE INVADERS. HEMU ENTERED IN TRIUMPH.



THERE WAS NO RESISTANCE IN THE CAPITAL. HEMU WAS GIVEN A GRAND WELCOME AND A BIG TITLE —



RAJA  
VIKRAMADITYA  
KI JAI!

THE NEWS OF TARDI BEG'S IGNOBLE FLIGHT REACHED BAIRAM AND AKBAR AT JULLUNDUR IN PUNJAB.

MY LORD, TARDI BEG HAS FLED FROM DELHI AT HEMU'S APPROACH. HEMU HAS PROCLAIMED HIMSELF KING!

TARDI BEG IS A COWARD. HE WILL PAY FOR THIS!





LEAVING A MUGHAL DIVISION BEHIND TO DEAL WITH BIKANDAR, AKBAR AND BAIKAM MARCHED IMMEDIATELY TOWARDS DELHI.





THE ARMIES OF AKBAR AND HEMU MET AT PANIPAT. IT WAS AT PANIPAT THAT BABUR, AKBAR'S GRANDFATHER, HAD WON HIS FIRST GREAT BATTLE IN HINDUSTAN.

PREPARE FOR BATTLE!

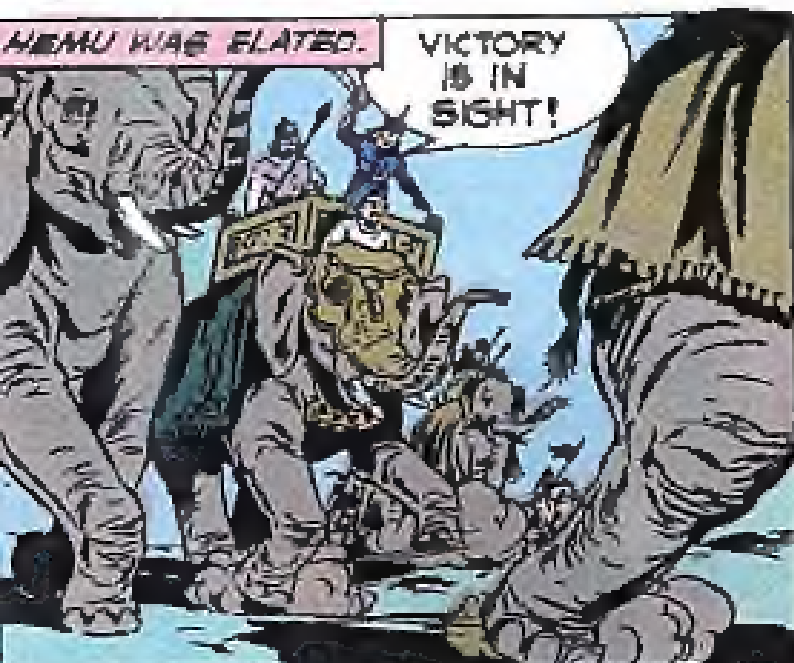
HEY, THERE,  
LOOK SHARP  
WITH THAT  
CANNON!

HEMU HAD A HUGE CAVALRY OF 50,000, WITH 1500 ELEPHANTS. THE MUSHALS HAD HALF THAT NUMBER OF CAVALRY. IT WAS GOING HARD FOR THE MUSHALS....



HEMU WAS ELATED.

VICTORY  
IS IN  
SIGHT!



BUT SUDDENLY—

AAH!

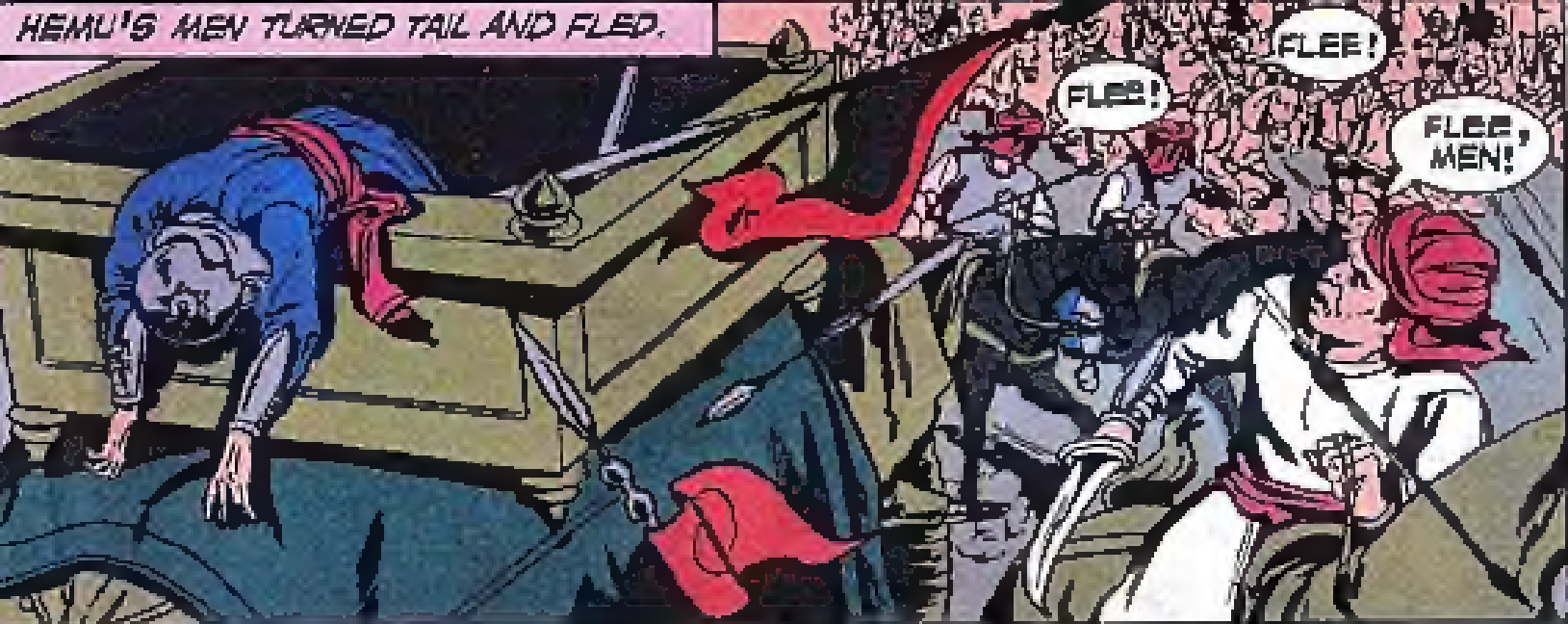
HAI! OUR  
RAJA HAS  
BEEN HIT!

AN ARROW  
HAS STRUCK  
HIS EYE!





**HEMU'S MEN TURNED TAIL AND FLED.**



**THIS ENDED THE SECOND BATTLE OF PANIPAT WITH VICTORY FOR THE MUGHALS. THIS VICTORY GAVE THEM BOTH POWER AND WEALTH.**



I HAVE COUNTED THE ELEPHANTS, MY LORD.

GOOD, SEND THEM UNDER ESCORT TO DELHI...

... WE WILL FOLLOW WITH THE ARMY TOMORROW.



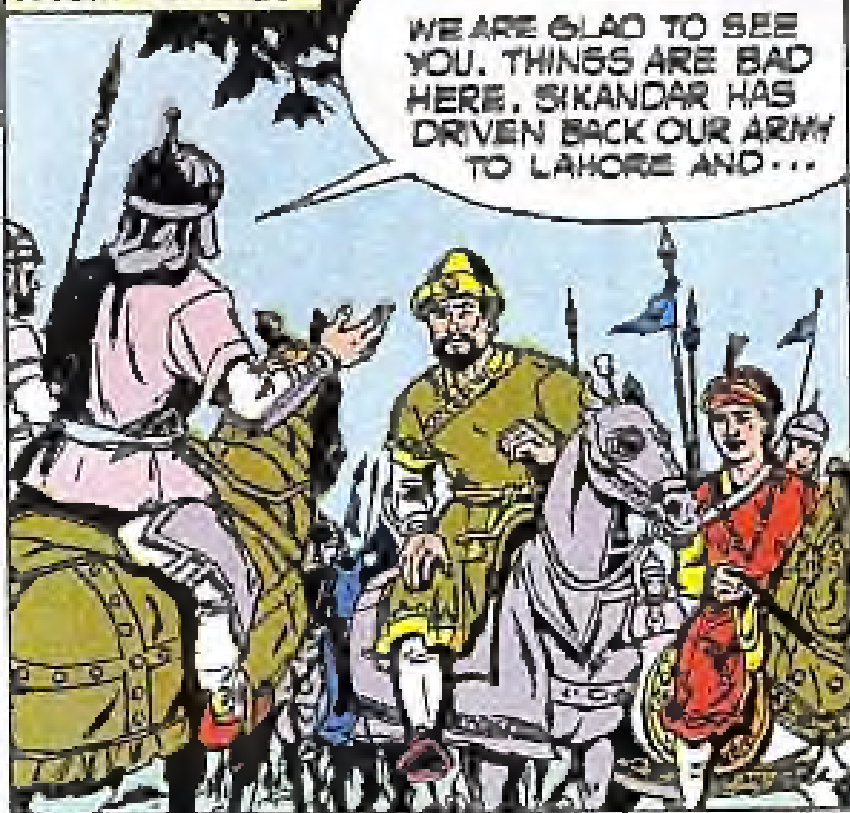
**IN DELHI, POOR HEMU'S HEADLESS BODY WAS DISPLAYED ON A GIBBET. THIS WAS THE CRUEL PRACTICE IN THOSE DAYS.**



THAT'S HEMU THERE!

BLIND CHANCE RAISED HIM HIGH— THEN SHE BUNDED HIM!

AFTER THE VICTORY, AKBAR AND BAI RAM RETURNED TO PUNJAB TO RESUME THE CAMPAIGN AGAINST SIKANDAR SHAH. ON THE WAY THEY MET A MUGHAL COMMANDER FROM PUNJAB.



WE ARE GLAD TO SEE YOU. THINGS ARE BAD HERE. SIKANDAR HAS DRIVEN BACK OUR ARMY TO LAHORE AND...

... WORSE STILL, HE HAS BEGUN TO COLLECT TAXES.



WE MUST VANQUISH SIKANDAR ONCE AND FOR ALL. AGREED, AKBAR?

AGREED!

MEANWHILE, THE LADIES OF AKBAR'S HAREM, WHO HAD BEEN SENT TO KABUL FOR SAFETY, HEARD THE NEWS OF THE VICTORY AT PANIPAT. AMONG THEM WAS AKBAR'S MOTHER, HAMIDA, AND HIS AUNT.



AT LAST! WE CAN RETURN TO HINDUSTAN! HAMIDA, I AM HAPPY!

WHAT A PLEASURE IT WILL BE TO SEE MY DEAR BOY, AKBAR!

THE MUGHAL LADIES JOURNEYED BACK TO DELHI. AKBAR LEFT HIS DIVISION IN PUNJAB AND RODE A DAY'S JOURNEY TO MEET THEM.



MY SON, YOU HAVE MADE IT POSSIBLE FOR US TO RETURN!

YOU ARE COURAGEOUS AND BRAVE!

MOTHER, IT WAS POSSIBLE ONLY WITH BAI RAM'S HELP. I OWE HIM A GREAT DEAL.







YOU WERE BORN UNDER A LUCKY STAR, AKBAR, THREE ENEMIES REMOVED IN LESS THAN EIGHTEEN MONTHS!



MY GRANDFATHER, BABUR, HAD THE SAME SORT OF LUCK. THEY SAY HE HAD ONLY TO APPEAR IN A BATTLE FOR HIS ENEMIES TO BE VANQUISHED!



NOW WE CAN RETURN TO DELHI AND HOPE TO REST A BIT. WE HAVE REGAINED DELHI, AGRA AND PUNJAB.

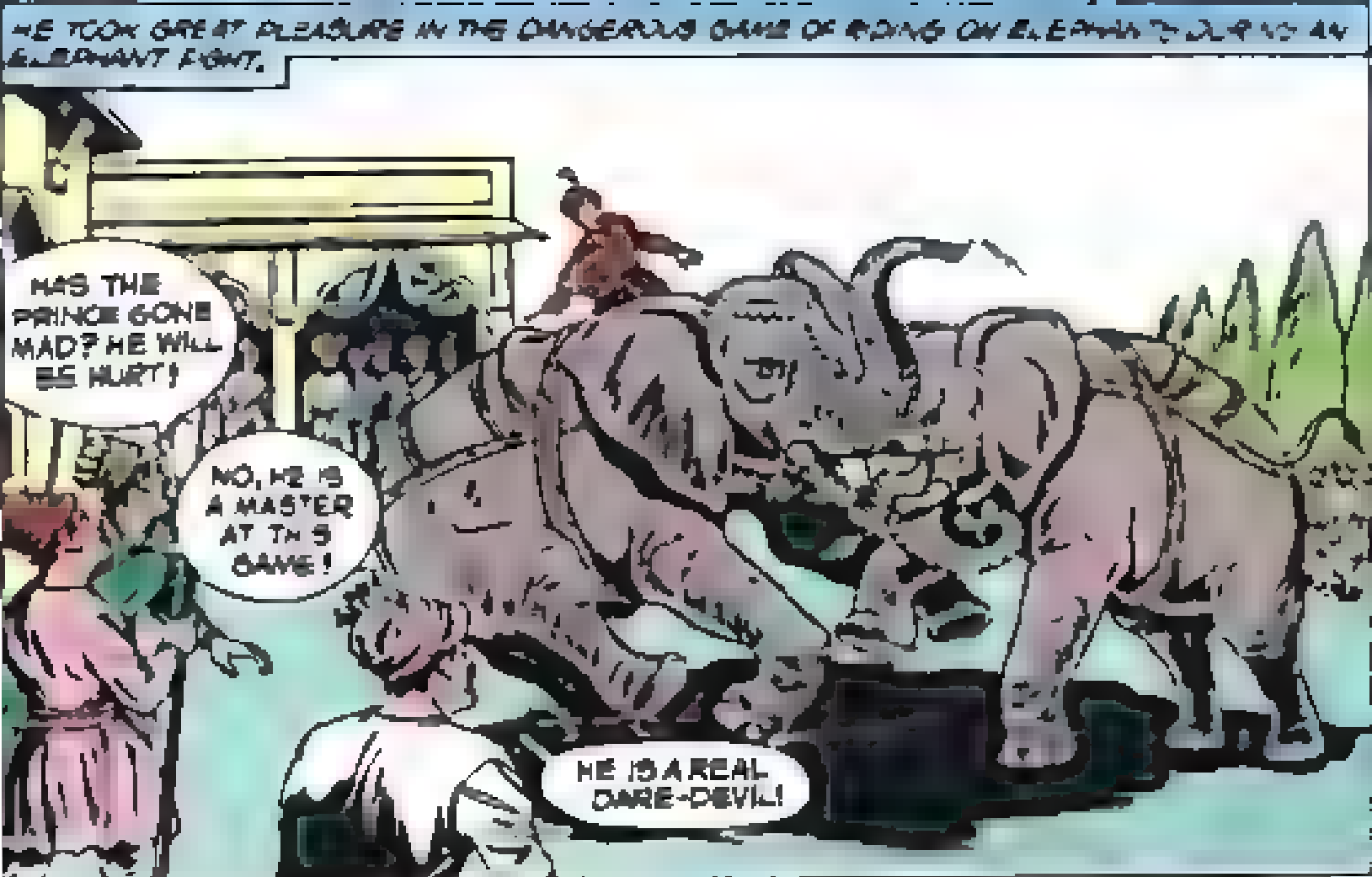
REMEMBER YOUR PROMISE TO ME. I CAN NOW GO HUNTING TO MY HEART'S CONTENT!



AS FOR YOU, BARAM, I APPROPRIATELY NAME A MASTER IN TOKEN OF MY RESPECT. TRY YOUR HAND AT CIVILIAN PROJECTS INSTEAD OF MILITARY ONES NOW!

LEAVING THE HEAVY CARES OF STATE TO BARAM, AKBAR NOW LED A PLEASURE-FILLED LIFE. HE WAS SPECIALLY FOND OF HUNTING WITH CHEETAHS, A VERY BLOODTHIRSTY SPORT.





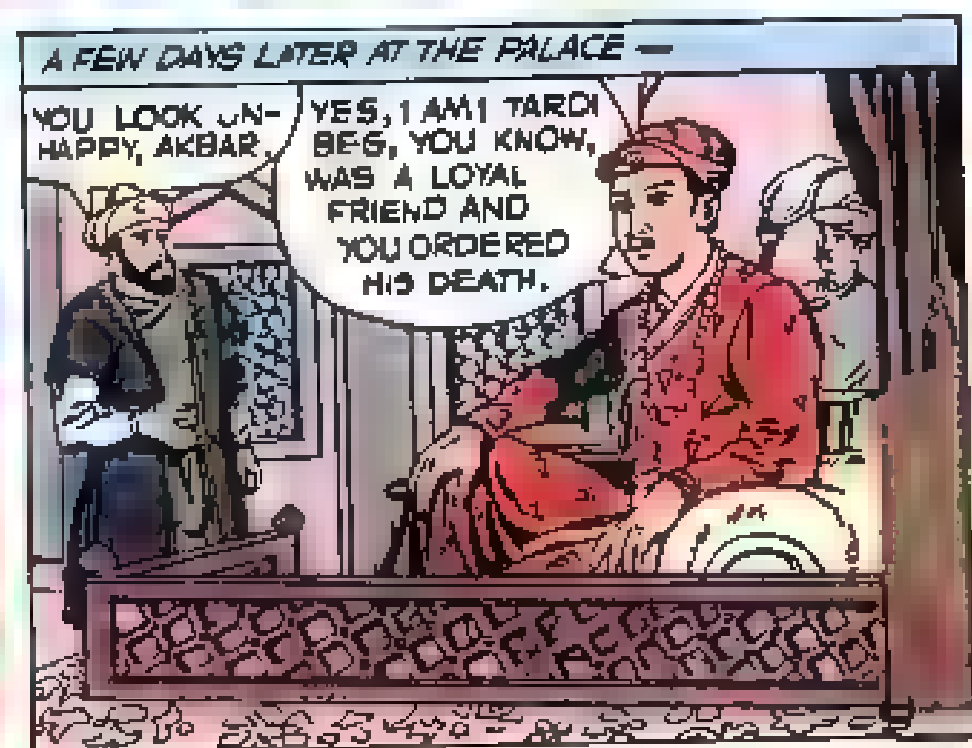
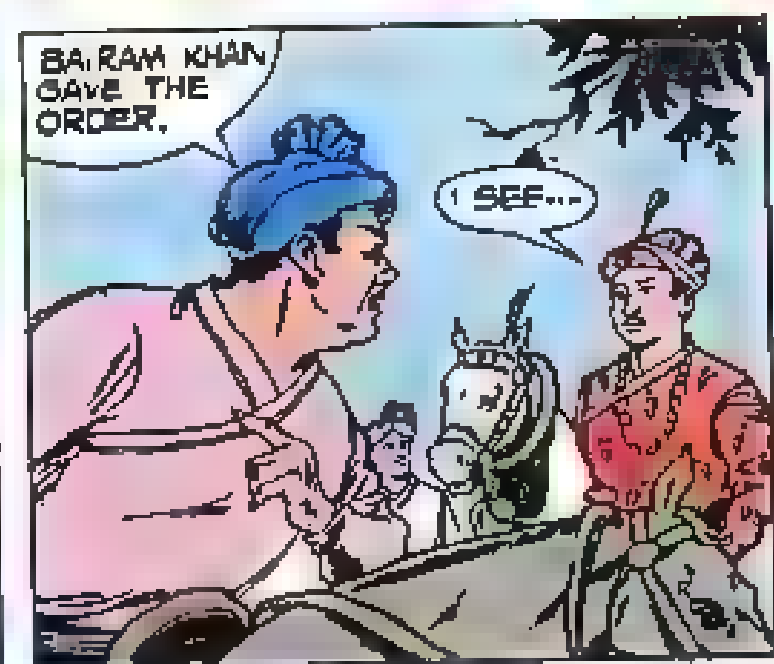
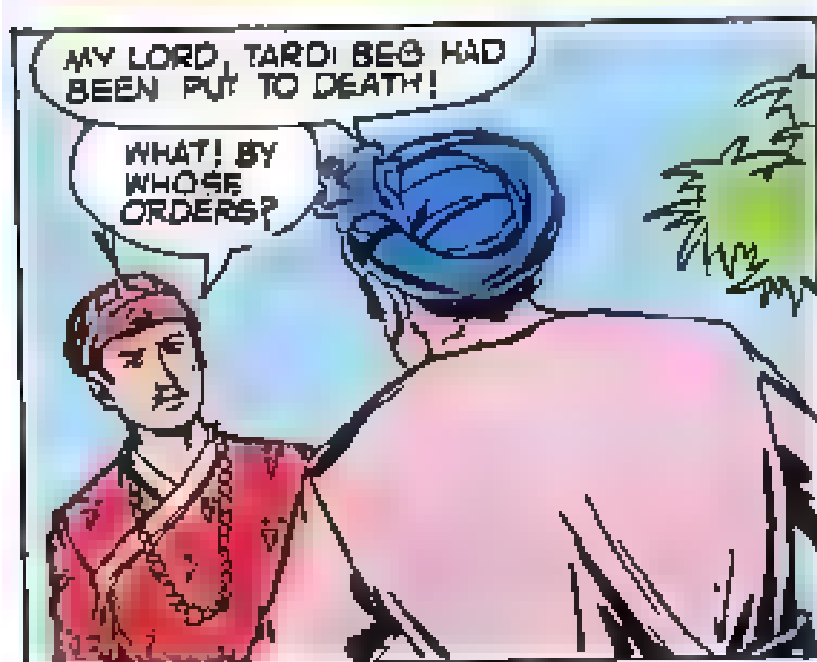
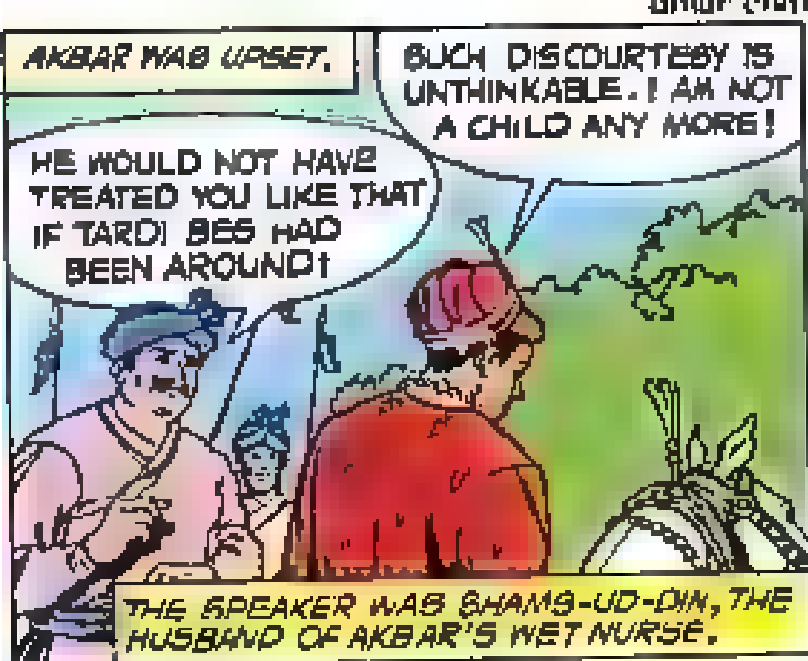
BAIRAM WAS EFFICIENT IN FOUR YEARS HE HAD SUBDUED ALL MAJOR FEUDS BUT HIS SUCCESS HAD MADE HIM ARROGANT, EVEN THREATENING THE EMPEROR HE BEGAN TO DISREGARD ANBAR'S ORDERS AND DID NOT CONSULT HIM ON STATE AFFAIRS. ONE DAY

BAIRAM IS UNWELL, I MUST VISIT HIM. SEND A MESSENGER TO TELL HIM I AM COMING.

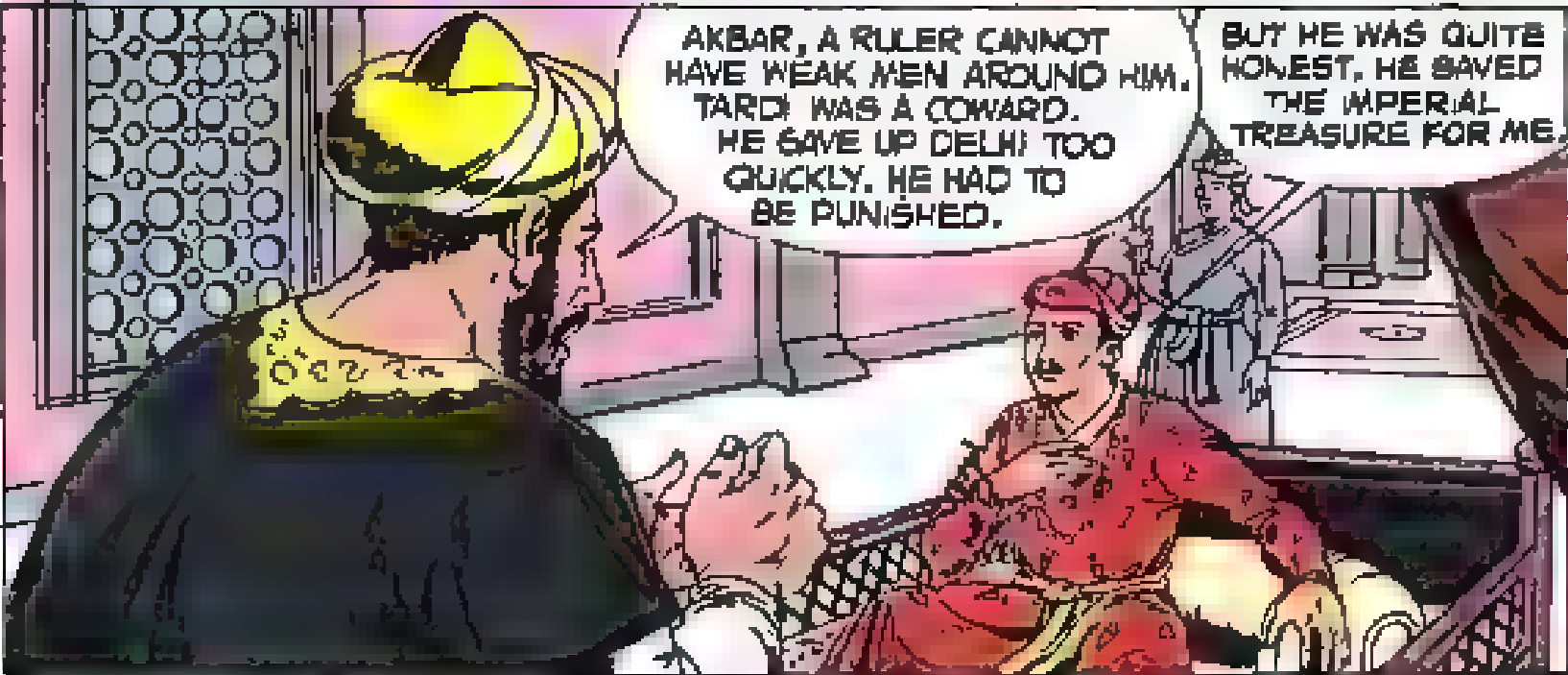


BUT THE MESSENGER RETURNED SOON—







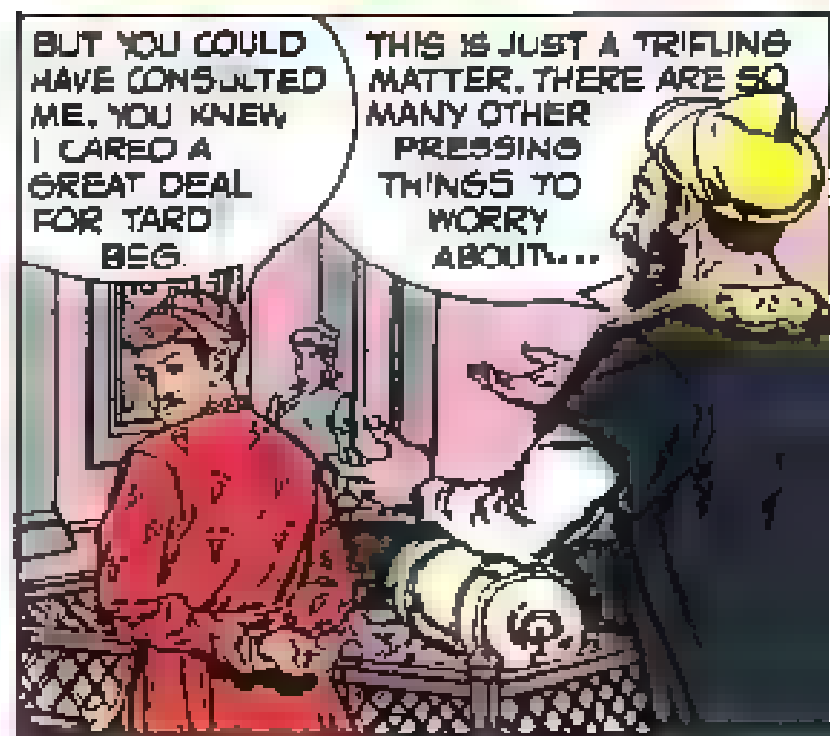


AKBAR, A RULER CANNOT HAVE WEAK MEN AROUND HIM. TARDI WAS A COWARD. HE GAVE UP DELHI TOO QUICKLY. HE HAD TO BE PUNISHED.

BUT HE WAS QUITE HONEST. HE SAVED THE IMPERIAL TREASURE FOR ME.



BUT SUPPOSE WE HAD LOST DELHI, AND FLED TO KABUL? OF WHAT USE WOULD THE TREASURE HAVE BEEN THEN?



BUT YOU COULD HAVE CONSULTED ME. YOU KNEW I CARED A GREAT DEAL FOR TARDI BEG.

THIS IS JUST A TRIFLING MATTER. THERE ARE SO MANY OTHER PRESSING THINGS TO WORRY ABOUT...



KNOW YOU WORK HARD, BAIRAM.

AND YOU KNOW MY LOYALTY AND AFFECTION IS LIMITLESS....

AND SO THEY WERE RECONCILED.

BUT AKBAR WAS FAST GROWING UP AND WANTED TO WIELD MORE AUTHORITY. BECAUSE OF BAI RAM'S ABROGANCE, THERE WAS ALSO A FEELING OF DISCONTENT IN THE COURT. A FEW YEARS LATER—

WHY SHOULD WE LET BAI RAM LORD IT OVER US LIKE THIS?

WE SHOULD SPEAK TO AKBAR ABOUT HIM.



ANGA SPOKE UP BEFORE THE REST. SHE HAD BEEN AKBAR'S NURSE AND WAS MUCH RESPECTED IN COURT.

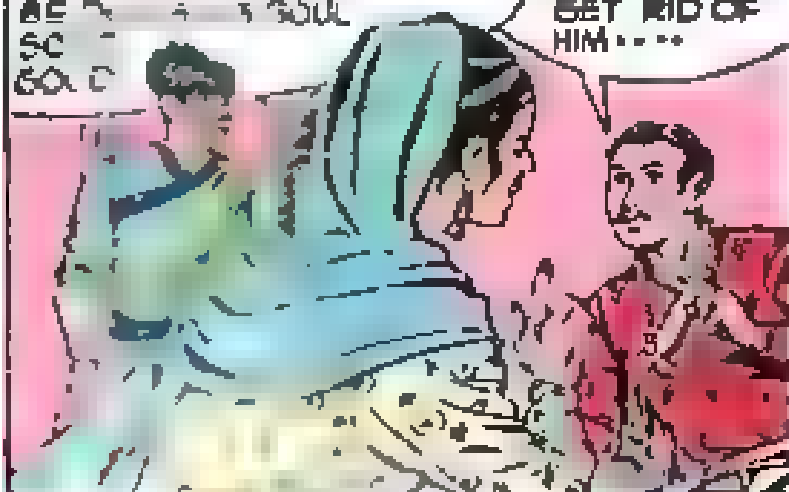
AKBAR, MY CHILD, YOU KNOW EVERYONE IS SAYING THAT BAI RAM IS BECOMING A GRAND PASHA. HE SPENDS MORE MONEY THAN YOU DO—AND HE'S SO OVERBEARING!

I, TOO, HAVE KNOWN IT FOR SOME TIME. BUT I OWE BAI RAM SO MUCH, I CAN'T CHIDE HIM.



DON'T CHIDE HIM, MY DEAR. JUST SEND HIM AWAY ON A PILGRIMAGE TO MECCA. YOU'LL BE GETTING A LOT OF GOLD.

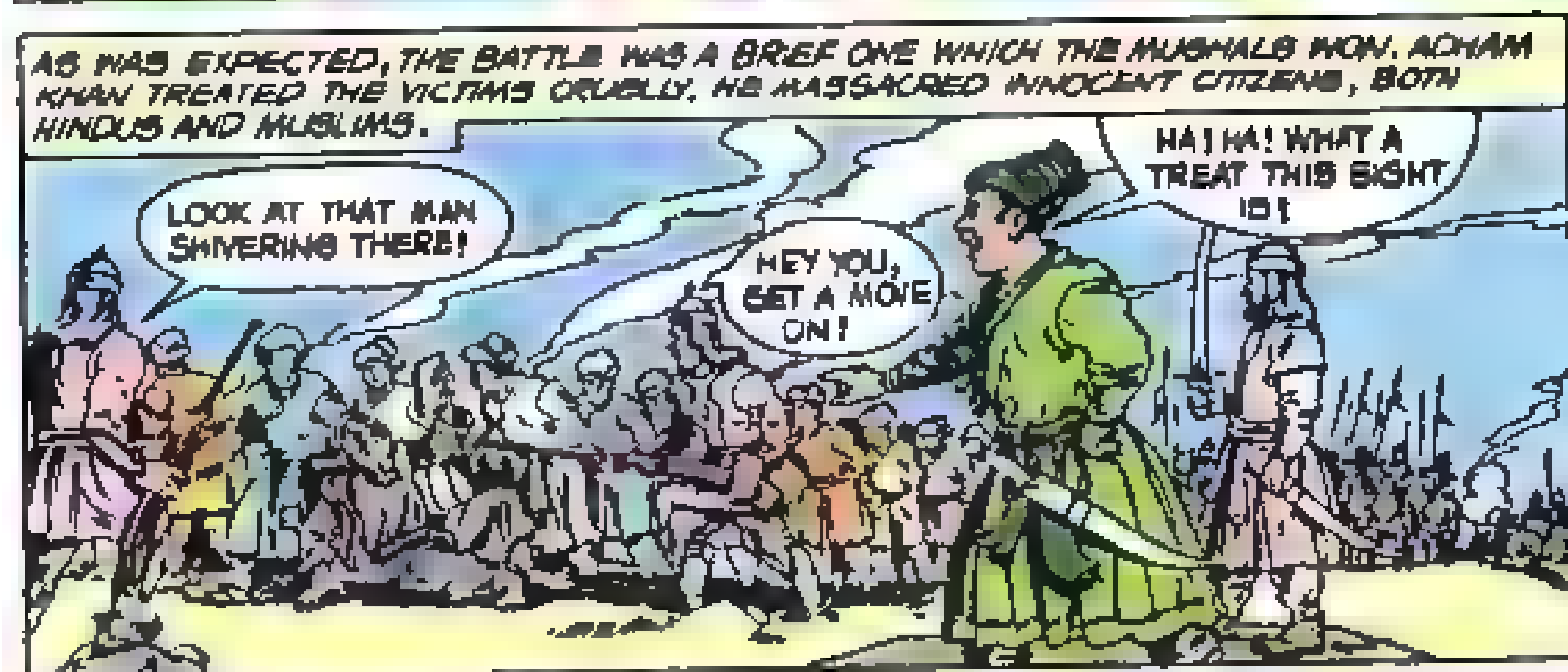
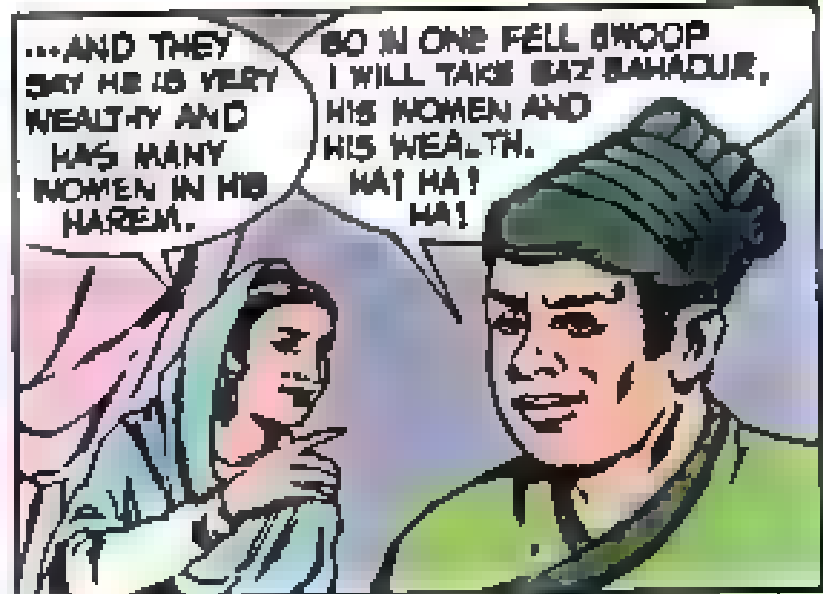
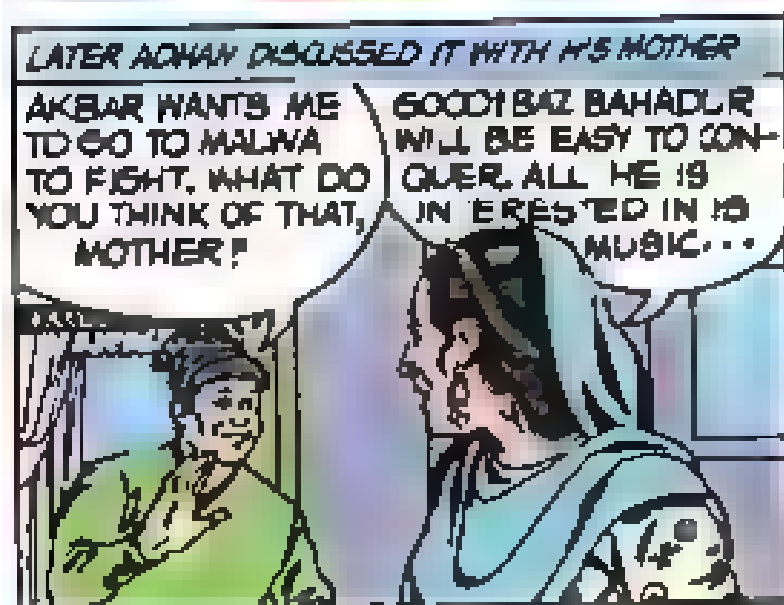
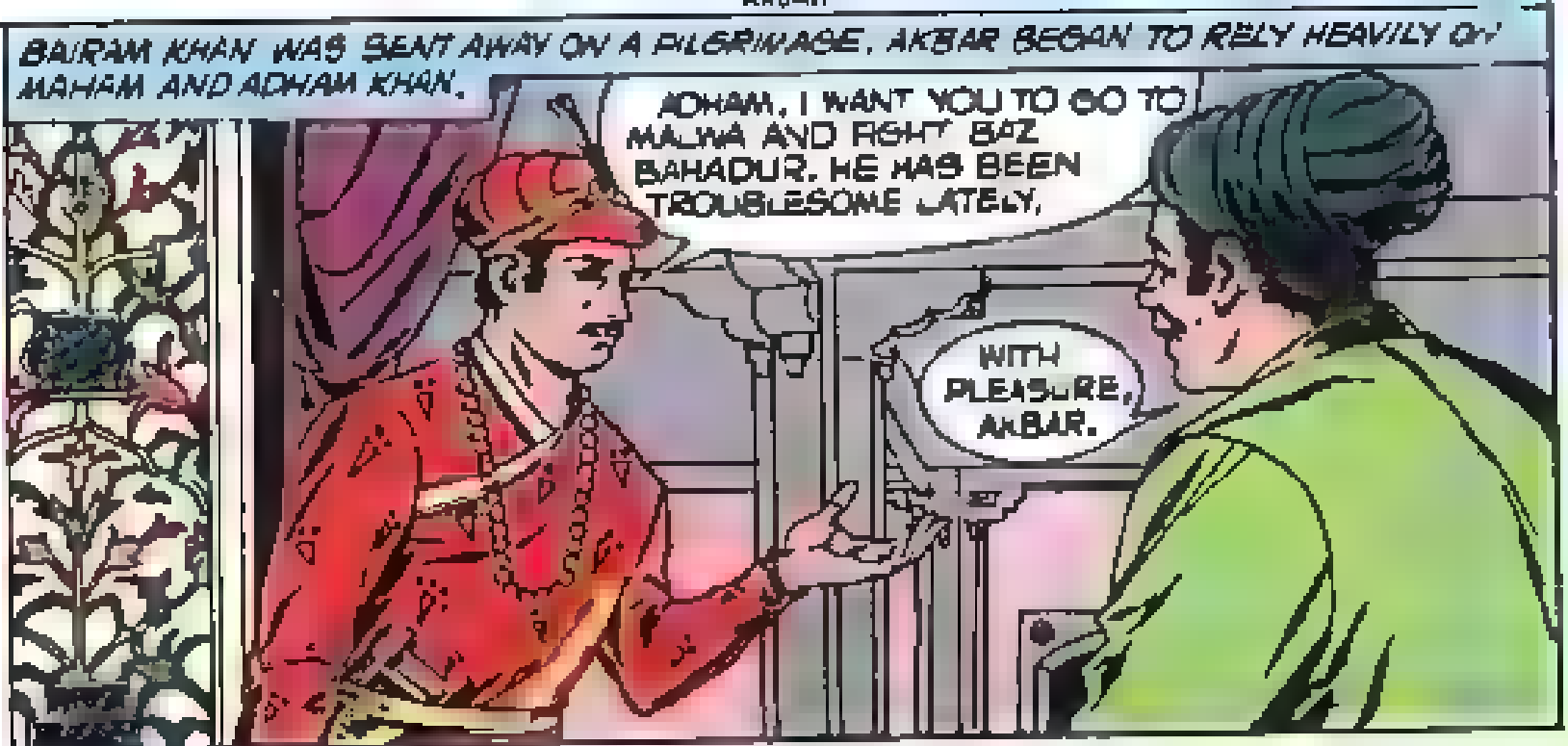
YES, THAT'S AN HONOURABLE WAY TO GET RID OF HIM....



MAHAM HAD HER OWN REASONS FOR WISHING TO GET RID OF BAI RAM. SHE HAD A SON, ADHAM KHAN, FOR WHOM SHE HAD AMBITIONS.

OH! HERE IS ADHAM. NOW, HE'S A MAN YOU CAN RELY ON TO CARRY OUT YOUR WISHES.





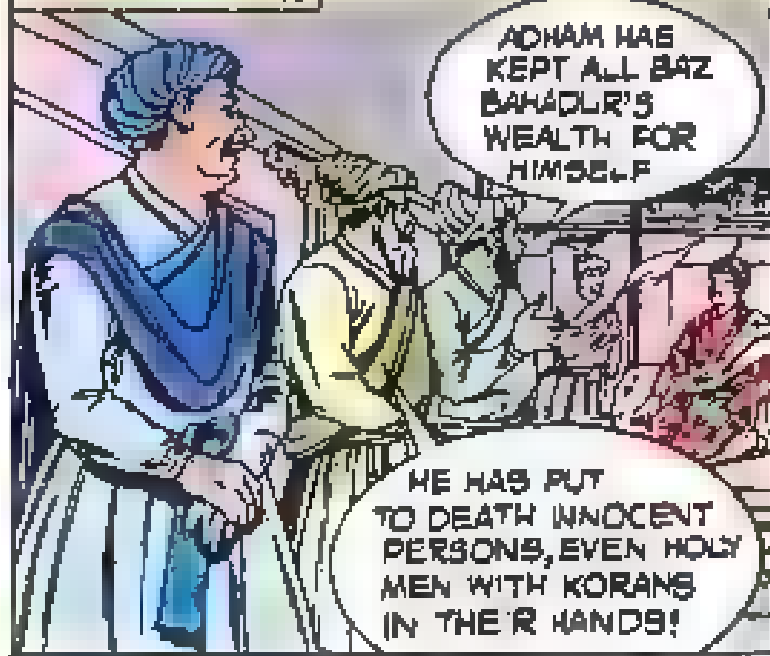


**BAZ BAHADUR FLED, LEAVING EVERYTHING BEHIND. ADHAM BEGAN TO LIVE IN HIS PALACE AS IF HE WERE THE KING.**



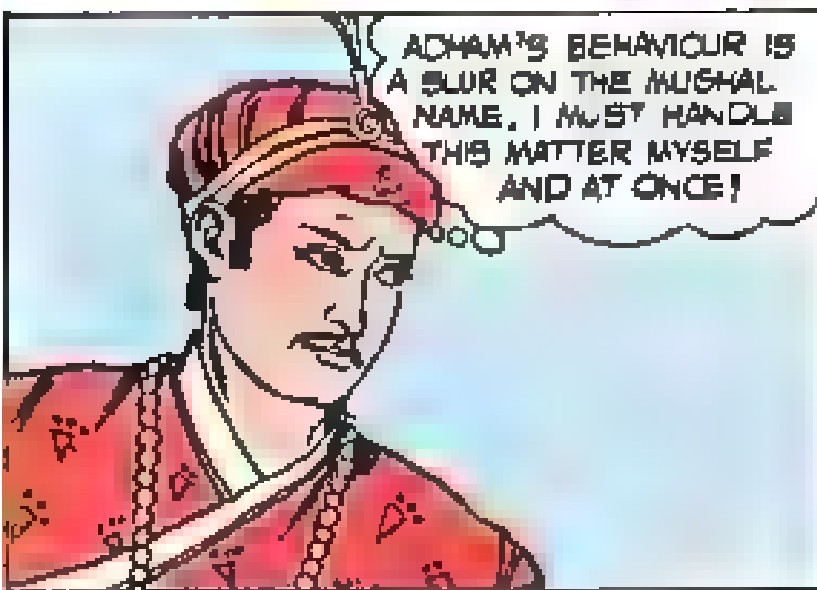
AH! JEWELS WORTHY OF A BRAVE LIKE ME!

**SOON THE NEWS OF ADHAM'S ACTIVITIES REACHED AKBAR.**

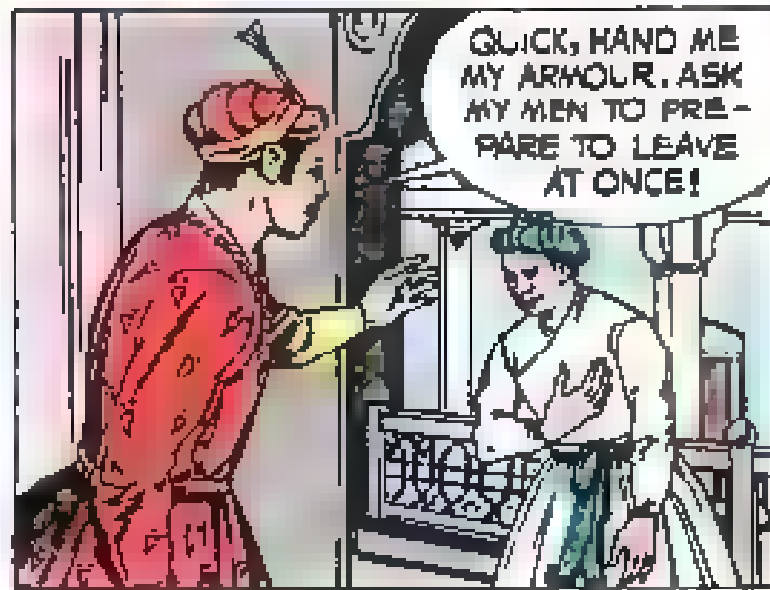


ADHAM HAS KEPT ALL BAZ BAHADUR'S WEALTH FOR HIMSELF

HE HAS PUT TO DEATH INNOCENT PERSONS, EVEN HOLY MEN WITH KORANS IN THEIR HANDS!



ADHAM'S BEHAVIOUR IS A SLUR ON THE MUSLIM NAME. I MUST HANDLE THIS MATTER MYSELF AND AT ONCE!



QUICK, HAND ME MY ARMOUR. ASK MY MEN TO PREPARE TO LEAVE AT ONCE!

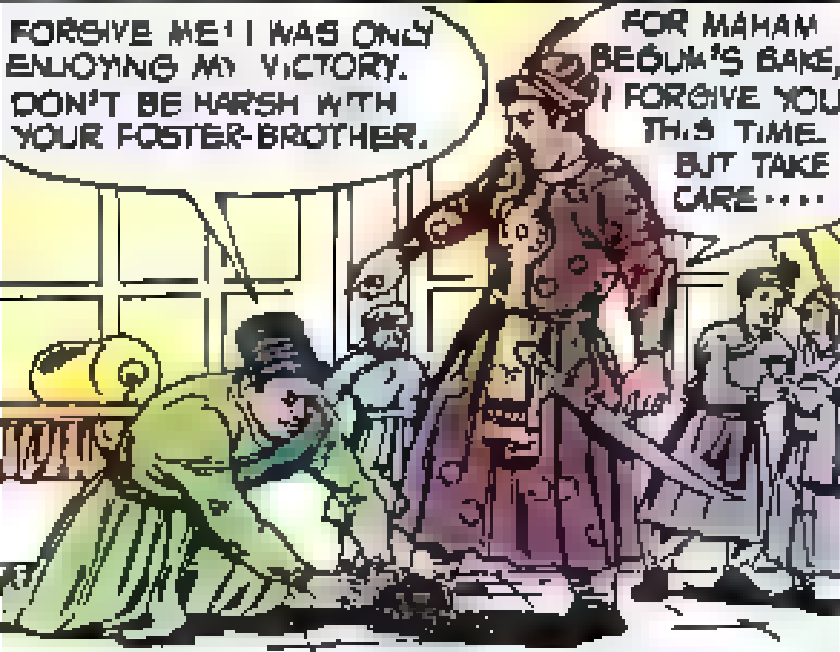
**WHEN AKBAR ARRIVED WITH A SMALL BAND OF MEN AT ADHAM'S CAMP—**



YOU, AKBAR? I HAVE WON THE BATTLE ALREADY! SO WHAT BRINGS YOU HERE?

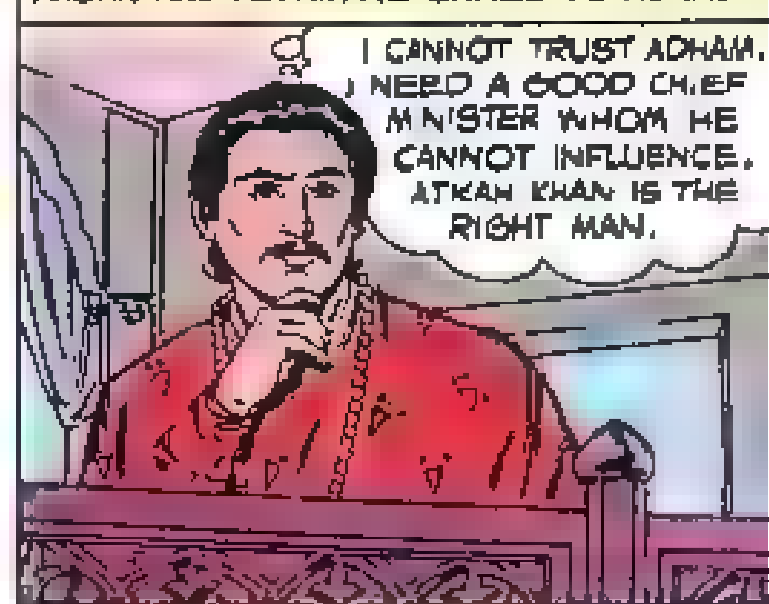
YOUR SHAMELESS BEHAVIOUR! HAVE YOU NO SENSE OF DECENCY?

FORGIVE ME! I WAS ONLY ENJOYING MY VICTORY. DON'T BE HARSH WITH YOUR FOSTER-BROTHER.



FOR MAHAM BEGUM'S SAKE, I FORGIVE YOU THIS TIME. BUT TAKE CARE....

AKBAR AND ADHAM RETURNED TO AGRA.



I CANNOT TRUST ADHAM. I NEED A GOOD CHIEF MINISTER WHOM HE CANNOT INFLUENCE. ATKAH KHAN IS THE RIGHT MAN.

SO ATKAH KHAN WAS GIVEN THE POST OF CHIEF MINISTER.

ATKAH, I LEAVE YOU IN FULL CHARGE. ONLY REMEMBER, KEEP ME INFORMED ABOUT EVERYTHING.



CERTAINLY, MY LORD.

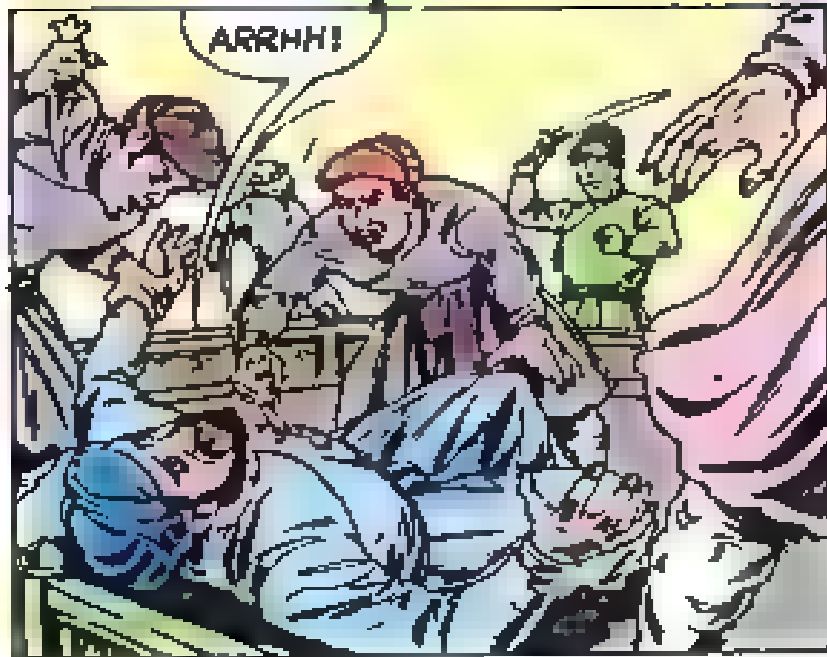
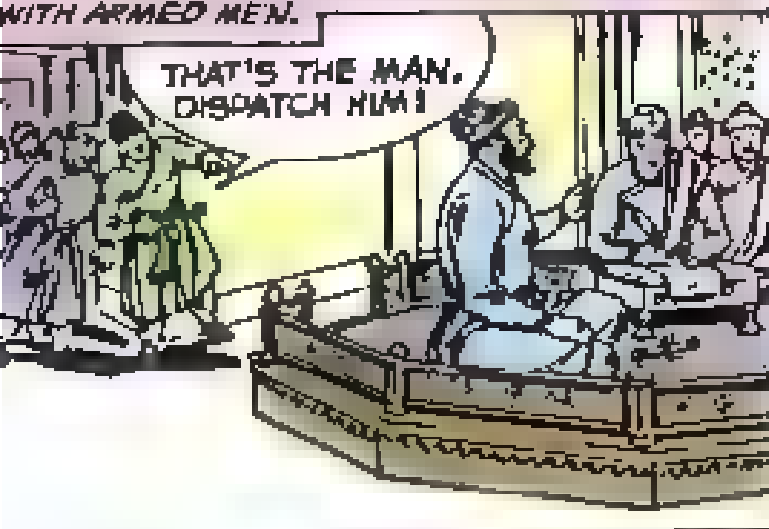
MAHAM AND ADHAM TOOK THE APPOINTMENT OF ATKAH KHAN AS A PERSONAL AFFRONT.

THAT UPSTART, ATKAH, PUTS ON SUCH AIRS. WE SHOULD NOT TOLERATE HIM, ADHAM.



QUITE RIGHT, MOTHER! I KNOW HOW TO DEAL WITH HIM.

ONE DAY AITAH KHAN WAS BUSY WITH STATE AFFAIRS IN A PUBLIC HALL IN THE PALACE, WHEN ADHAM KHAN SUDDENLY APPEARED WITH ARMED MEN.



JUST THEN AKBAR APPEARED AT THE DOORWAY.



THE GUARDS LIFTED THE UNCONSCIOUS ADHAM AND THREW HIM OVER THE PARAPET

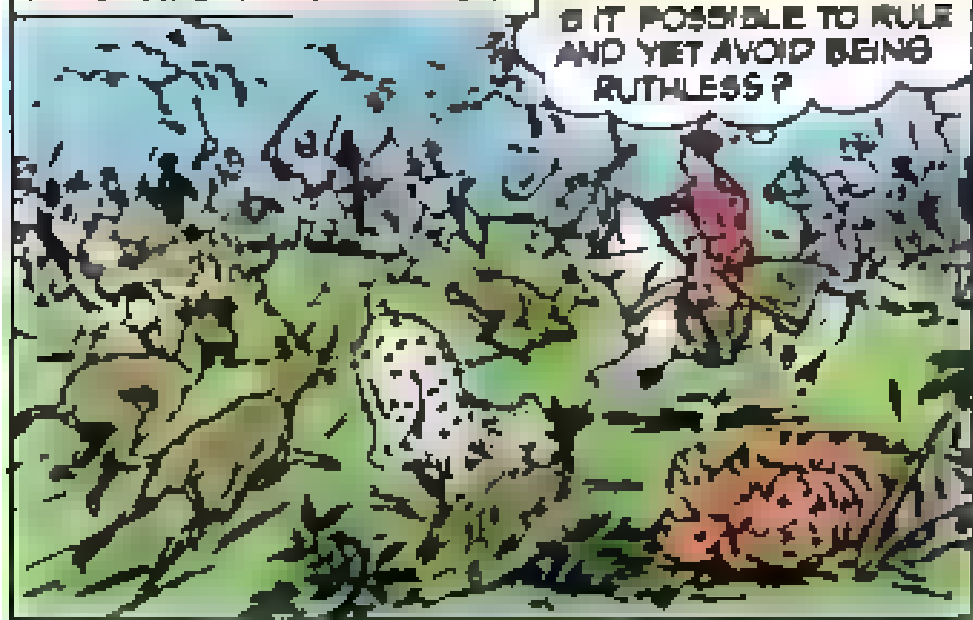


ADHAM DID NOT DIE THE FIRST TIME. HE HAD TO BE DRAGGED UP AND THROWN DOWN A SECOND TIME.

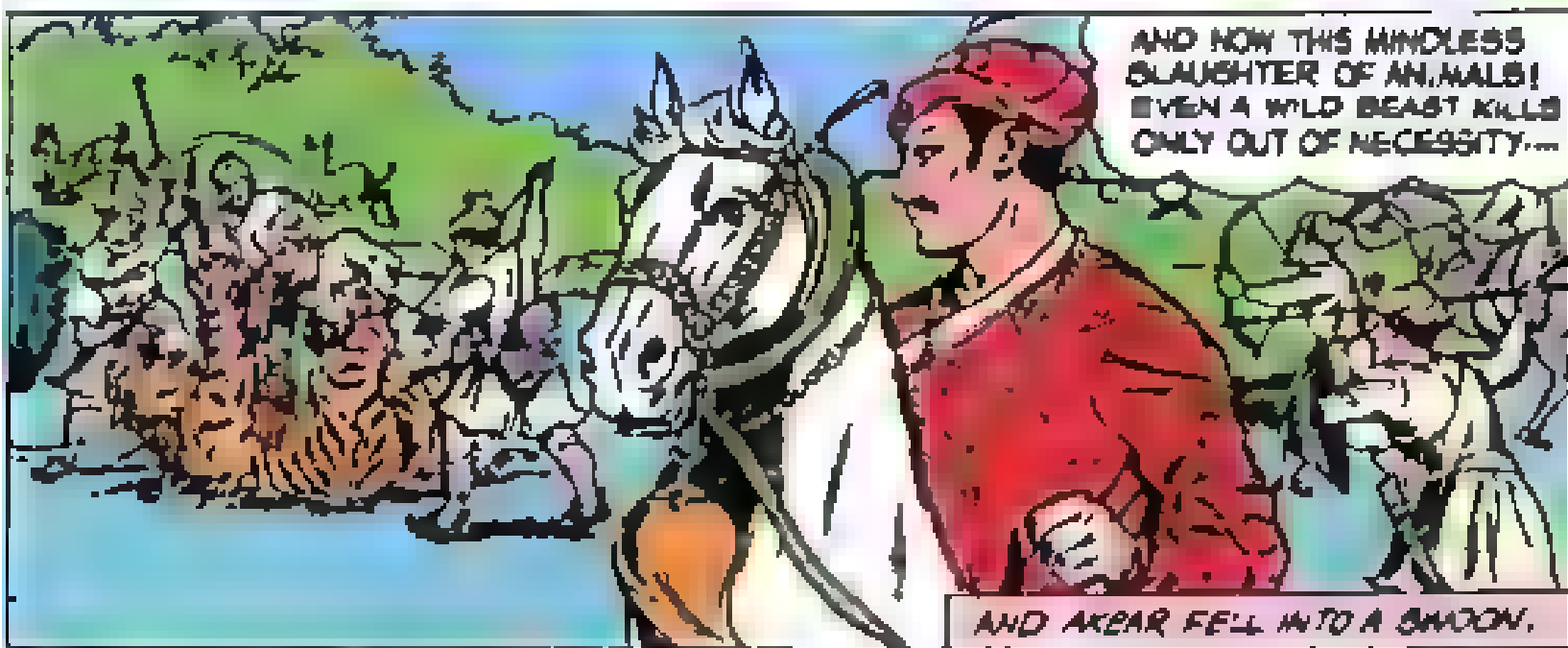


THIS EPISODE LEFT AN UNPLEASANT IMPRESSION ON AKBAR. ONE DAY WHILE HE WAS OUT HUNTING, HE PONDERED OVER THE PAST.

IS IT POSSIBLE TO RULE AND YET AVOID BEING RUTHLESS?



I BANISHED BARAM AND SENT MY FOSTER BROTHER, AUMAM, TO HIS DEATH...



AND NOW THIS MINDLESS SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS! EVEN A WILD BEAST KILLS ONLY OUT OF NECESSITY...

AND AKBAR FELL INTO A MOOD.

BUT AKBAR CONTINUED HIS HUNTING EXPEDITIONS FOR POLITICAL REASONS

JAHANGIRAN, TROUBLE IS BREWING IN THE EAST...



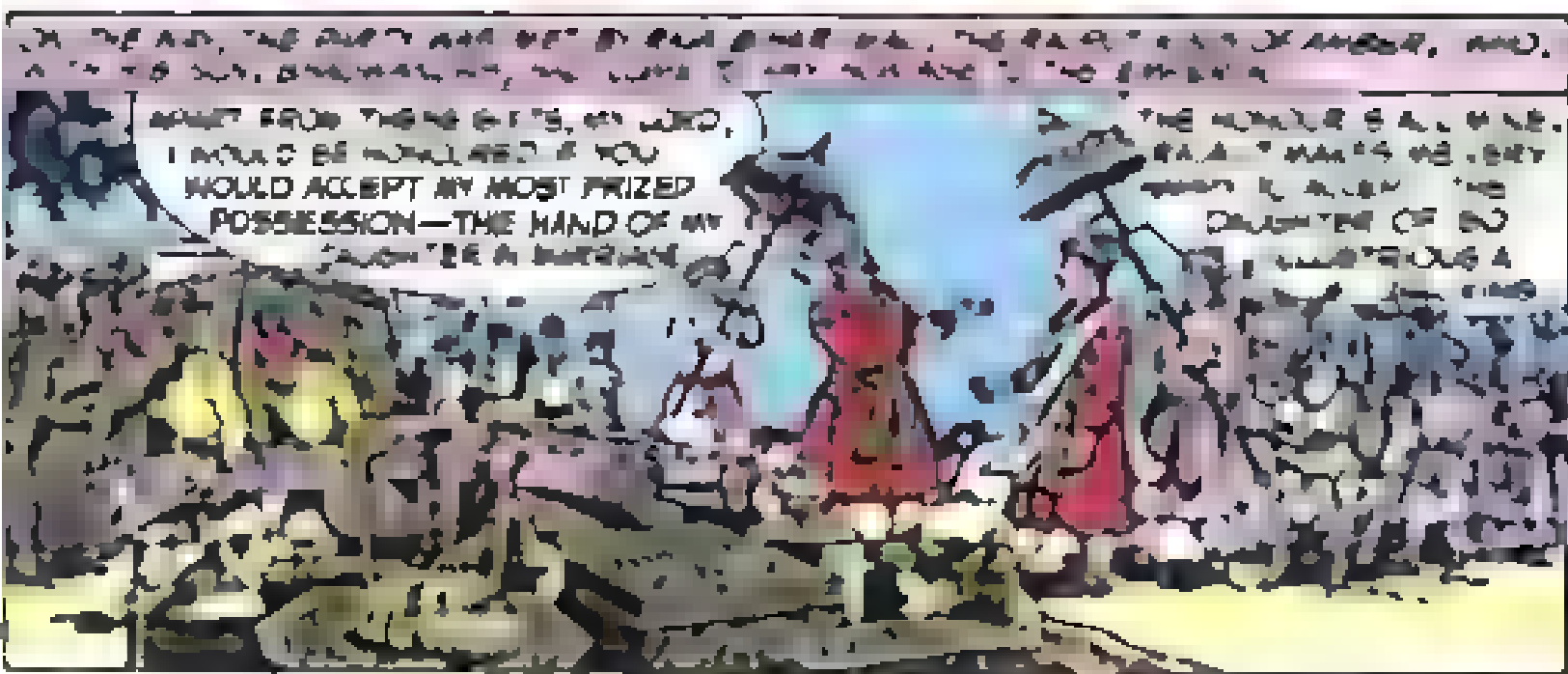
MAKE ARRANGEMENTS FOR A HUNTING EXPEDITION IN THE NEIGHBOURING FOREST

AKBAR'S FERY PRESENCE ON THE SCENE OF REBELLION HAD, AS USUAL, THE DESIRED EFFECT.

NO SIGN OF ANY TROUBLE-MAKERS HERE!

NO, THEY FLED ON YOUR ARRIVAL





THE MAN WHOSE DUTY IT WAS TO  
 PROTECT THE KING AND HIS WIFE, AND  
 HIS OWN PEOPLE, WAS THE KING'S  
 BODYGUARD.

THE KING AND HIS WIFE, AND  
 HIS OWN PEOPLE, WAS THE KING'S  
 BODYGUARD. KHAWAJA MU'IN-UD-DIN

IN THE END, THE KING AND HIS WIFE, AND HIS OWN PEOPLE, WAS THE KING'S  
 BODYGUARD. KHAWAJA MU'IN-UD-DIN

ABOUT FROM THE KING'S, MY LORD,  
 I WOULD BE HONORED IF YOU  
 WOULD ACCEPT MY MOST PRIZED  
 POSSESSION—THE HAND OF MY  
 DAUGHTER IN MARRIAGE.

THE KING'S DAUGHTER  
 WAS A BEAUTIFUL GIRL,  
 AND SHE WAS THE  
 DAUGHTER OF THE  
 KING.

IN THE END, THE KING AND HIS WIFE, AND HIS OWN PEOPLE, WAS THE KING'S  
 BODYGUARD. KHAWAJA MU'IN-UD-DIN

THIS IS A GREAT  
 DAY FOR US!  
 WE ARE SO  
 HAPPY!

IF THE PRINCESS BEARS  
 A SON, HE WILL BE THE  
 KING'S SON.

THE ONE REASON WHY THE KING AND HIS WIFE, AND HIS OWN PEOPLE, WAS THE KING'S  
 BODYGUARD. KHAWAJA MU'IN-UD-DIN

THE APPOINTMENT OF THE RAJPU'S, BHAGWANTS AND HAN SINGH, WAS IN LINE WITH HIS SECULAR BELIEFS. HAN SINGH, THE GRANDSON OF THE RAO OF AMBER, BECAME A CLOSE ASSOCIATE —

MY LORD, YOUR HINDU SUBJECTS ARE PRAISING YOU FOR ABOLISHING THE HATEFUL JIZYA\* TAX.

I AM GLAD MY SUBJECTS ARE HAPPY. THEIR LOYALTY IS MORE IMPORTANT TO ME THAN THEIR FAITHS, HAN SINGH.



I WISH SOME OF YOUR MULLAS WOULD SEE IT THAT WAY TOO!

WHAT'S TO BE DONE ZEALOTS THINK THERE IS ONLY ONE PATH TO HEAVEN.



AKBAR EVEN ALLOWED HIS HINDU WIFE TO CELEBRATE HER FESTIVALS IN COURT AND JOINED IN THEM HIMSELF.

MUBARAK!

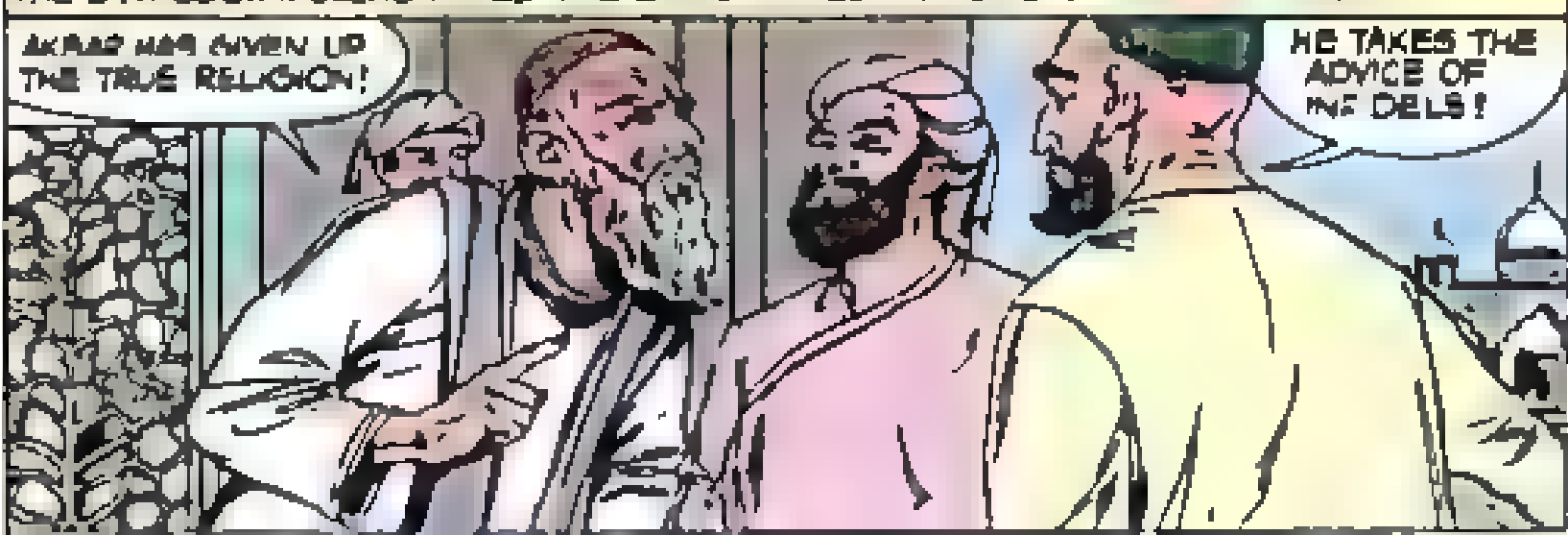
MUBARAK, HANI! HOW DOES THIS TURBAN SUIT ME?



THE ORTHODOX MULLAS HATED THE ENLIGHTENED POLICIES OF THEIR RULER...

AKBAR HAS GIVEN UP THE TRUE RELIGION!

HE TAKES THE ADVICE OF THE DELS!



.... THOUGH SOME OF THEM UNDERSTOOD THE REASONS FOR HIS ACTIONS.

THIS YEAR HE HAS REFUSED TO SEND MONEY TO THE POOR IN MECCA. WHAT WILL THEY THINK OF US THERE!

BUT WHY SHOULD HE SEND MONEY THERE? HE GIVES TO THE POOR IN HINDUSTAN!



WHERE IS THE NEED TO BREAK OUR TIME-HONOURED CUSTOMS?

HE WANTS TO CARRY OUT CERTAIN REFORMS...

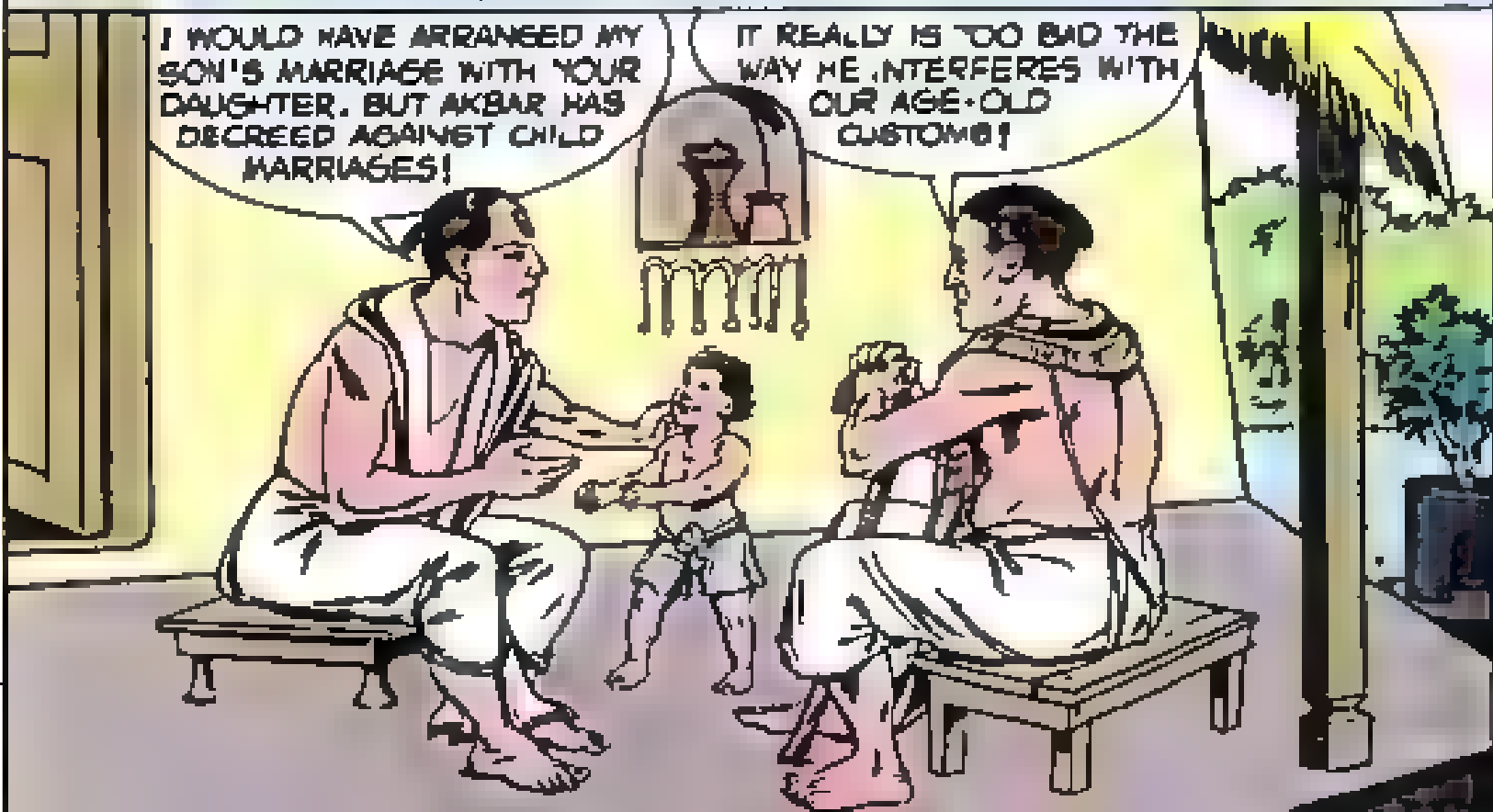
REFORMS? WE DON'T WANT REFORMS! WHATEVER RULES WERE WRITTEN IN THE OLD DAYS - THOSE ARE SUFFICIENT FOR US!



BUT AKBAR WENT AHEAD WITH HIS LIBERAL POLICIES, SOME OF THESE AFFECTED ORTHODOX HINDUS AS WELL, SUCH AS THE ABOLITION OF SATI AND CHILD MARRIAGE.

I WOULD HAVE ARRANGED MY SON'S MARRIAGE WITH YOUR DAUGHTER. BUT AKBAR HAS DECREED AGAINST CHILD MARRIAGES!

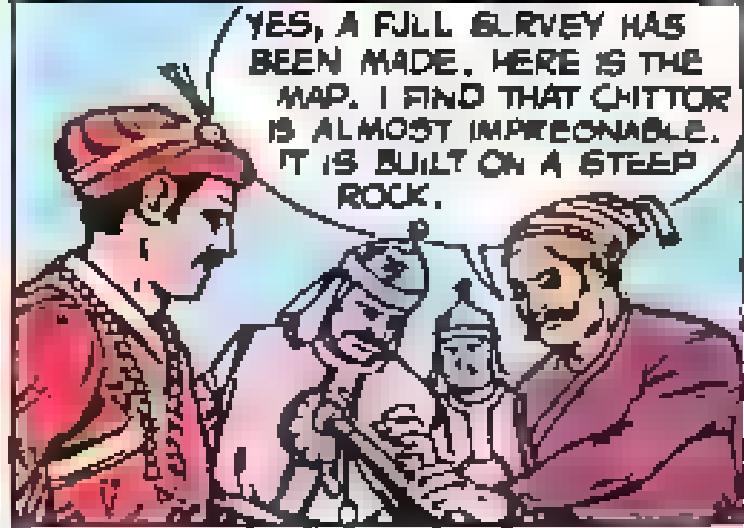
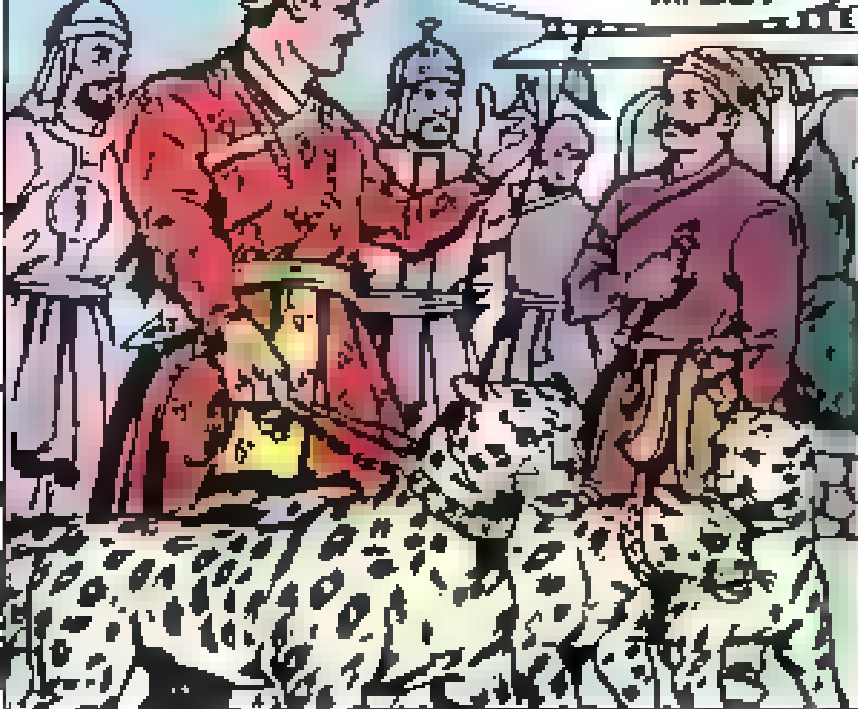
IT REALLY IS TOO BAD THE WAY HE INTERFERES WITH OUR AGE-OLD CUSTOMS!





MOST OF THE RAJPUT PRINCES HAD BY NOW ACCEPTED AKBAR'S SUZERAINTY, BUT THE PROUD RANA OF MEWAR REFUSED TO FALL UNDER HIS SWAY. AKBAR DECIDED TO ATTACK HIM.

THE RANA'S CAPITAL FORT WILL BE OUR NEXT TARGET. HAS THE SURVEY I ORDERED OF THE AREA BEEN MADE?



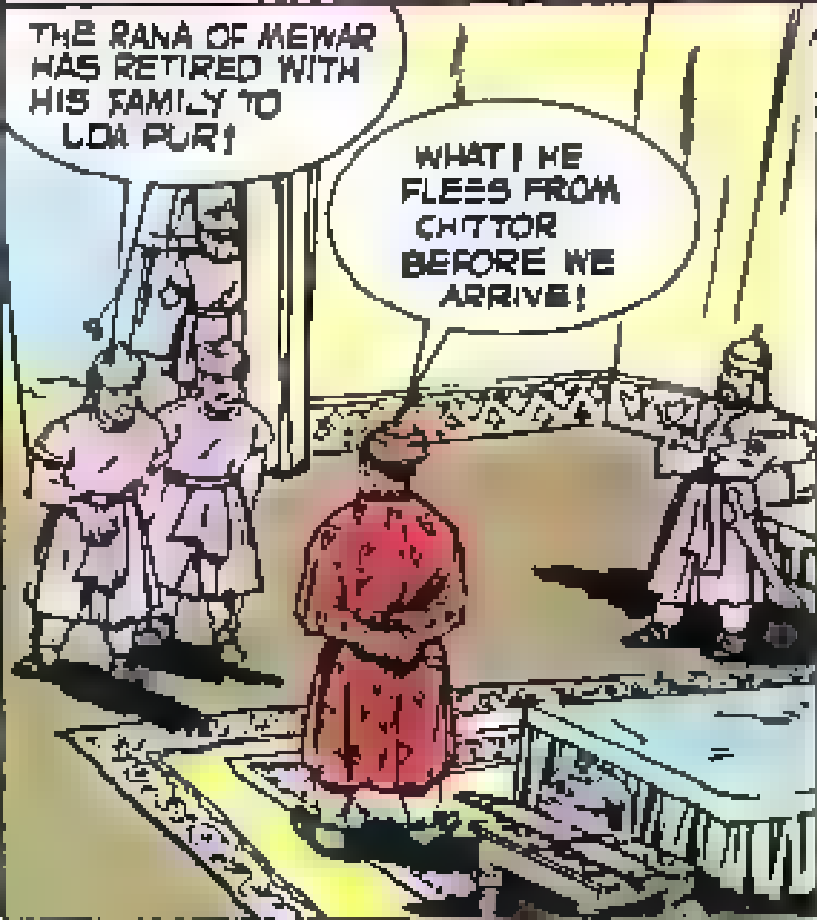
YES, A FULL SURVEY HAS BEEN MADE. HERE IS THE MAP. I FIND THAT CHITTOR IS ALMOST IMPREGNABLE. IT IS BUILT ON A STEEP ROCK.



IMPREGNABLE? BUT IT WAS ONCE CAPTURED BY SULTAN BAHADUR SHAH.

IT WAS DIFFICULT THEN—AND IT WILL BE DIFFICULT NOW.

AKBAR MADE FULL PREPARATIONS, AND STARTED OUT WITH HIS ARMY. ON THE WAY—



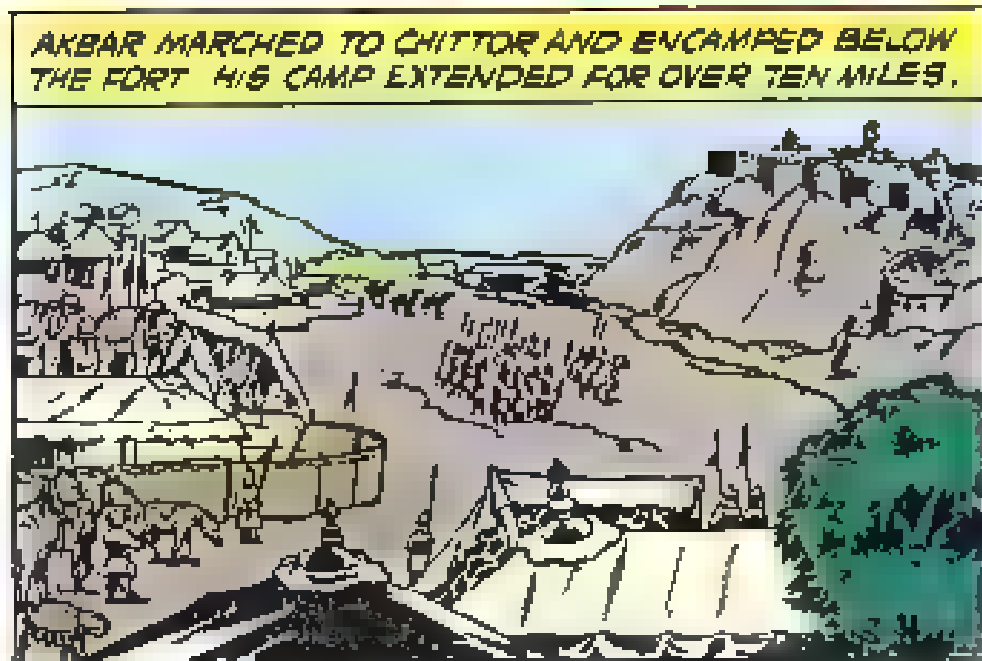
THE RANA OF MEWAR HAS RETIRED WITH HIS FAMILY TO LDA PUR!

WHAT! HE FLEES FROM CHITTOR BEFORE WE ARRIVE!



BUT HE HAS LEFT GENERAL JAMAL IN CHARGE OF CHITTOR WITH EIGHT THOUSAND RAJPUTS.

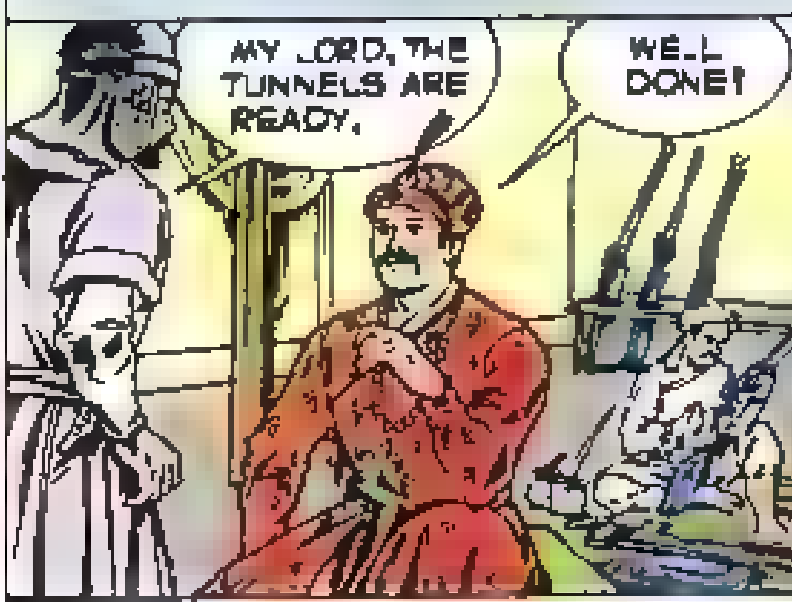
SO HE LEAVES THEM TO DIE?



TWO TUNNELS CLOSE TO EACH OTHER  
LEADING TO THE FORT WERE BURROWED.  
IT TOOK ONE MONTH TO DO THIS.



BUT AT LAST THE WORK WAS COMPLETED.



MY LORD, THE  
TUNNELS ARE  
READY.

WE'LL  
DONE!

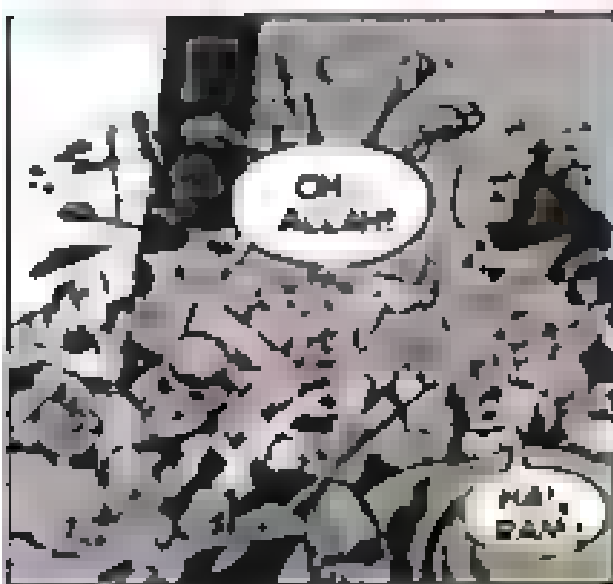
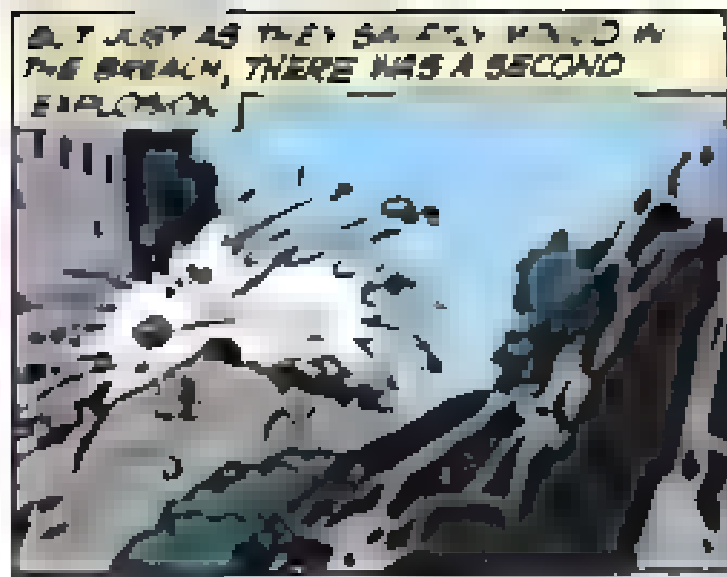
WE ARE PRE-  
PARING TO LIGHT  
THE FUSES.

THEY MUST EXPLODE  
AT THE SAME TIME  
SEE TO THAT.



ALL RIGHT,  
READY!







THE SABAT WAS A STEADILY GROWING FORTIFICATION. AS ITS WALLS INCHED FORWARD, THE MUSHAL GUNS, CANNONS AND MEN, COULD ADVANCE UNDER PROTECTION BUT IT WAS DANGEROUS FOR THE WORKERS IN THE FORWARD AREA. HUNDREDS OF THEM DIED EVERY DAY, VICTIMS OF ARROWS FROM THE CHITTOR FORT.



AS THEY MOVED FORWARD TO THE FOOT OF FORTRESS, THE GUNS SNIPED.



BOTH SIDES FOUGHT COURAGEOUSLY, BUT AS HE DREW NEARER THE FORT, AKBAR WAS IN A STRONGER POSITION.



FINALLY, THINGS WERE SO BAD FOR THE  
ENEMY THAT THE COMMANDER, JAHA, HIM-  
SELF CAME TO THE BREACH TO DEFEND IT



THE PRACTICE OF WOMEN INVOLATING THEMSELVES RATHER THAN BE TAKEN AS CAPTIVES



THEN THE MAN YOU  
JUST KILLED MUST  
HAVE BEEN THE  
LORD OF THE  
MOUNTAINS.

NO... IT WAS TIME TO  
END THE BATTLE AS WE  
HAD BEEN FIGHTING FOR A  
VERY LONG TIME.



THE WOMAN WHO WAS SITTING ON THE BENCH  
WAS THE SAME ONE WHO WAS KILLED BY THE  
MOUNTAIN LORD. SHE WAS THE ONLY ONE  
WHO HAD SURVIVED THE BATTLE.



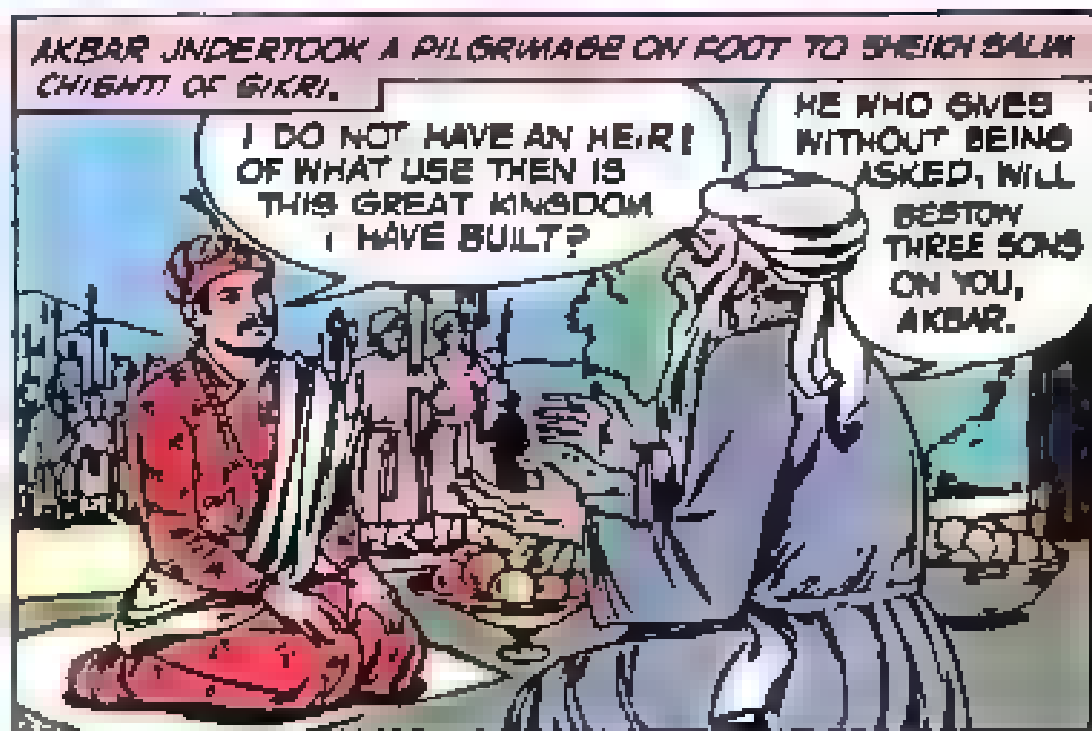
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WHO HAD SURVIVED THE BATTLE.

HAVING ESTABLISHED HIS KINGDOM ON A FIRM FOUNDATION, AKBAR COULD NOW ENJOY THE LUXURIES OF COURT LIFE. BUT A SECRET SADNESS TROUBLED HIM.



THE HOLY MAN'S PROPHECY CAME TRUE THE VERY NEXT YEAR. THE RAJPUT PRINCESS OF AMBER GAVE BIRTH TO A SON. HE WAS NAMED SALIM.



TWO MORE SONS, MURAD AND DANIYAL, WERE BORN WITHIN A FEW YEARS.

\* LATER KNOWN AS THE EMPEROR JAHANGIR



WITH THE SUCCESSION ENSURED, AKBAR TURNED HIS ATTENTION TO IMPROVING THE LOT OF THE PEOPLE. HE UNDERTOOK MANY REFORMS AND CONSOLIDATED THE EMPIRE. HE INVITED PEOPLE OF ALL RELIGIONS TO HOLD DISCUSSIONS IN HIS PALACE.



WHAT A WASTE OF TIME!  
... AND I HAD HOPED  
FOR SOME SPIRITUAL  
INSIGHTS WHEN  
I INVITED THESE  
RELIGIOUS  
LEADERS!



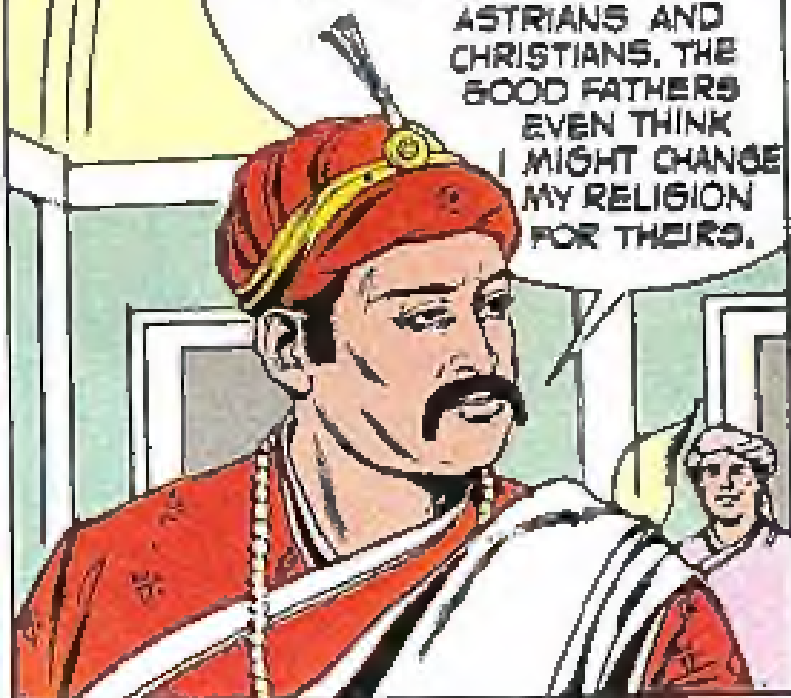
HIS FAVOURITE CONFIDANTE WAS THE  
SCHOLAR, ABUL FAZL.

ABUL, WE CALL PEOPLE  
OF OTHER FAITHS  
"INFIDELS". BUT IS IT  
RIGHT TO PUT ALL MEN,  
GOOD AND BAD, UNDER  
SUCH A LABEL?

NO, OUR DEEDS  
MATTER MORE  
THAN THE FAITH  
WE PROFESS.



THIS IS TRUE ABOUT ALL THE OTHERS I HAVE TALKED TO — THE HINDUS, JEWS, ZOROASTRIANS AND CHRISTIANS. THE GOOD FATHERS EVEN THINK I MIGHT CHANGE MY RELIGION FOR THEIRS.



BUT I AM LOOKING FOR SOMETHING ELSE, ABUL — A RELIGION THAT WILL UNITE ALL MEN....



AKBAR'S QUEST FOR A UNIVERSAL RELIGION FOUND EXPRESSION IN DIN-I-ILAH. DURING HIS LONG REIGN, HE TRIED TO PUT HIS IDEALS INTO PRACTICE AND CHANGE THE WORLD INTO A MORE HUMANE PLACE. WHEN HE DIED AT THE AGE OF 63, HE BEQUEATHED TO THE FUTURE HIS IDEAL OF A UNIFIED COUNTRY OF DIVERSE RELIGIONS AND CULTURES. ABOVE ALL HE IS REMEMBERED FOR HIS LOVE OF THE ARTS AND FOR HIS MAGNIFICENT ARCHITECTURE.



# WHICH OF THE ACKS HAVE YOU STILL NOT READ?

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Best known stories from the Epics and the Puranas

ABHIMANYU  
ANDHAKA  
ANIRUDHA  
ARJUNA, TALES OF  
ARUNI AND UTTANKA  
ASHVINI KUMARS  
ATTAPPAN  
BAHUBALI  
BALARAMA, TALES OF  
BHEEMA AND HANUMAN  
BHEESMA  
CHANDRAHASA  
CHURNING OF THE OCEAN  
DASHARATHA  
DHRIYA AND ASHTAVAKRA  
DRAUPADI  
DRONA  
DURGA, TALES OF  
ELEPHANTA  
GANDHARI  
GANESHA  
GANGA  
GARUDA  
GHATOTKACHA  
GITA, THE  
GOLDEN MONGOOSE, THE  
HANUMAN  
HANUMAN TO THE RESCUE  
HARISCHANDRA  
INDRA AND SHACHI  
INDRA AND SHIBI  
JAGANNATHA OF PURI  
JAYADRATHA  
KACHA AND DEVAYANI  
KARNA  
KARTTIKEYA  
KRISHNA  
KRISHNA AND JARASANDHA  
KRISHNA AND NAKASHURA  
KRISHNA AND BIRMINI  
KRISHNA AND SHISHUPALA  
KRISHNA AND THE FALSE  
VAASUDEVA  
KUMBHAKARNA  
LORD OF LANKA, THE  
MAHABHARATA  
MAHARAVANA  
NACHIKETA  
NAHUSA  
NALA DAMAYANTI  
NARADA, TALES OF  
PANDAVA PRINCES, THE  
PANDAVAS IN THE HIDING, THE  
PRAHLOD  
RAMA  
RAVANA HUMBLIED  
SATI AND SHIVA  
SAVITRI  
SHIVA PARYATI  
SHIVA, TALES OF  
SONS OF RAMA, THE  
SUDAMA  
SURYA  
SYAMANTAKA GEM, THE  
TRIPURA  
ULOOPI  
UPANISHADS, TALES FROM  
VALI

VISHNU, TALES OF  
YISHYAMITRA  
YAYATI  
YUDHISHTHIRA, TALES OF

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ANCESTORS OF RAMA  
DEVI CHOUDHURANI  
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KAPALA KUNDALA  
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ADVENTURES OF  
AGAD DATTA, THE  
ADVENTURES OF  
BADDU AND CHHOTU, THE  
AMRAPALI  
ANGULIMALA  
BAD OF GOLD COINS, A  
BATTLE OF WITS  
BIKAL THE TERRIBLE  
BIRBAL STORIES  
BIRBAL THE CLEVER  
BIRBAL THE GENIUS  
BIRBAL THE JUST  
BIRBAL THE WISE  
BIRBAL THE WITTY  
BIRBAL TO THE RESCUE  
THE INIMITABLE BIRBAL  
CELESTIAL NECKLACE, THE  
CHANDRALALAT  
COWHERD OF ALAWI, THE  
FEARLESS BOY AND OTHER  
BUDDHIST TALES, THE  
FOOL'S DISCIPLES, THE  
FRIENDS AND FOES  
GOPAL AND THE COWHERD  
GOPAL THE JESTER  
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BRAHMIN & THE GOAT  
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HOW THE JACKAL ATE THE  
ELEPHANT  
JACKAL & THE  
WAR DRUM, THE  
PRICELESS GEM, THE  
PRINCE AND THE  
MAGICIAN  
QUEEN'S NECKLACE, THE  
PANDIT AND THE MILKMAID  
RAMAN OF TENALI  
RAMAN THE MATCHLESS WIT  
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CHANDRAGUPTA MAURYA  
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HARSHA  
HISTORIC CITY OF DELHI, THE  
JAHANGIR  
JALLIANWALA BAGH  
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KRISHNADEVA RAYA  
LACHIT BAPPHUKAN  
LALITADITYA  
MANGAL PANDU  
NOOR JAHAN  
PADMINI  
PANNA AND HADI RANI  
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PRITHVIRAJ CHAUHAN  
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RAJA RAJA CHOILA  
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RAMA PRATAP  
RAMA SANGA  
RANI DURGAVATI  
RANI OF JHANSI  
RANJIT SINGH  
RASH BEHARI ROSE

SAMLIDRA GUPTA  
SHAH JAHAN  
SHALIVAHANA  
SHIVAJI  
SHIVAJI, TALES OF  
SUBHAS CHANDRA BOSE  
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RAM SHASTRI  
SABABA, TALES OF  
SHANKAR DEY  
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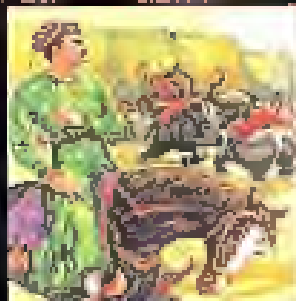
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## AKBAR

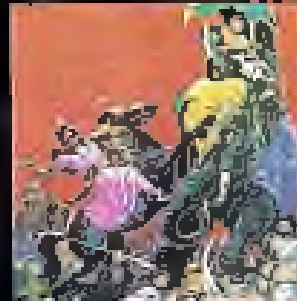
He was a child, who only wanted to ride elephants and hunt tigers. Crowned emperor of Hindustan at the age of 13, he was mature enough to choose his friends carefully. Enemies and dangerous courtiers, on the other hand, were dispatched mercilessly. For his courage and generosity, his love of the arts and universal justice, history gave Jalaluddin Muhammad Akbar an enduring label – 'Akbar the Great'.

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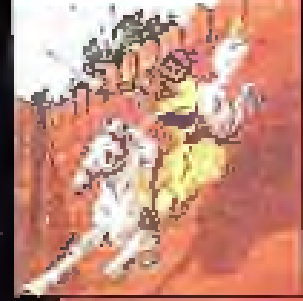
#### RANA PRATAP



#### RANJIT SINGH

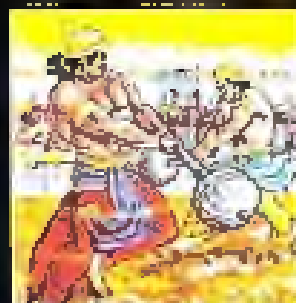


#### AMAR SINGH RATHOR



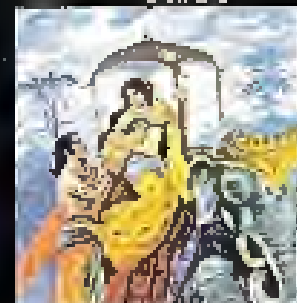
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